

1964



1964

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

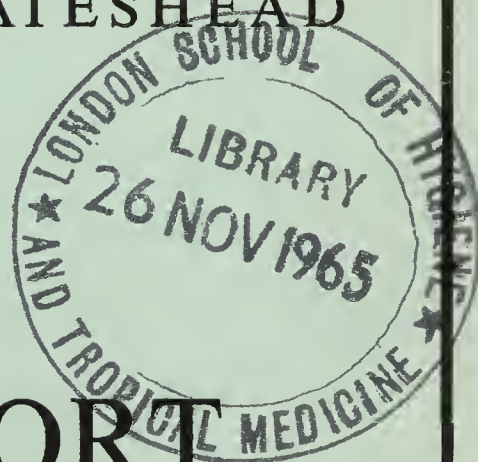
Public Health Department

FOR YEAR 1964

JAMES GRANT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(GLASGOW)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. CHARLTON, CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1964

Chairman: COUNCILLOR W. COLLINS

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR A. V. TURNBULL

ALD. MRS. M. BELL	COUN. D. JACKSON
„ A. CROSSLEY	„ MRS. A. E. JEWITT
„ J. T. ETHERINGTON	„ A. JOHNSON
„ M. GRANT	„ F. JOHNSON
„ J. A. HUTCHISON, O.B.E.	„ MRS. J. H. LISTER
„ J. W. ROBERTS	„ J. MURRAY
„ B. N. YOUNG	„ W. O'KANE
COUN. W. J. BRADLEY	„ C. REED
„ G. E. CARPENTER	„ F. W. ROGERS
„ L. CARR	„ C. RYANS
„ W. J. S. CHAPPLE	„ J. W. WATSON
„ J. FITZPATRICK	„ J. C. S. WHEATLEY
„ W. HARLAND	„ MRS. F. M. WHEATLEY
„ J. W. HAWKINS	„ F. WIND

Co-opted Members

MRS. E. HARLAND	MRS. L. PATTISON
MRS. E. MCCLURE	MRS. H. STOREY
MRS. E. TEMPLEMAN	

Representatives of Outside Bodies

DR. J. C. ARTHUR
MR. D. W. N. FRANKLIN
(Secretary Executive Council for Gateshead)

SUB-COMMITTEES

Invalid Care and After Care

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. HUTCHISON
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	COUN. HARLAND
ALD. MRS. BELL	„ A. JOHNSON
„ CROSSLEY	„ F. JOHNSON
„ ETHERINGTON	„ RYANS

Representative of the Council of Social Service

MR. J. R. CHAMBERS

Other Members

MISS H. BROTHERTON
(vacancy)

Mental Welfare

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. YOUNG
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	COUN. HARLAND
ALD. MRS. BELL	„ MRS. JEWITT
„ CROSSLEY	„ F. JOHNSON
„ ETHERINGTON	„ RYANS
„ HUTCHISON	„ WHEATLEY

General Purposes and Insanitary Property

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. YOUNG
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	COUN. HARLAND
ALD. MRS. BELL	„ MRS. JEWITT
„ CROSSLEY	„ A. JOHNSON
„ ETHERINGTON	„ F. JOHNSON
„ HUTCHISON	„ RYANS
	COUN. WHEATLEY

1. STAFF OF LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer — JAMES GRANT, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer — DR. JEAN M. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H., LL.B.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers — MARION HARRISON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., WINIFRIDE BILLINGTON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., PHILIP C. BARRY, L.R.C.P.

Chief Dental Officer — JOSEPH WHITEHOUSE, L.D.S.

Dental Officers — MRS. I. F. JONES, L.D.S., MISS TERESA ROSSI, B.D.S., MR. R. ROBSON, L.D.S. (commenced 6.1.64).

Dental Surgery Assistants — MISS M. CESSFORD, MISS S. P. THOMPSON, MRS. E. DANBY, MRS. H. TYRELL.

Dental Technicians — T. W. CURTIS, J. GILHOME.

Physiotherapist — MRS. M. ROSE, M.C.S.P. (resigned 29.2.64).

Health Visitors and School Nurses — I. BRADLEY (Supt.), M. DAGLISH (Sen. H.V.), D. C. JOHNSON (Sen. H.V.), E. WISE, M. CRAGGS, J. TURNBULL, A. MULLEN, R. GARDNER, S. GILLEY, E. BAXTER, M. FAIRS, M. McMANEMY, M. B. MAIN, M. INCE, M. MORRELL, A. BARTLEY, M. M. MAW (resigned 11.5.64), J. A. BARWICK, M. M. CUNNINGHAM, A. U. NNAJI, E. DUKE, F. McDONALD, M. A. HASWELL, M. EVANS (commenced 4.8.64), C. A. WILKINSON (nee Porter—resigned 5.7.64).

Student Health Visitors — (commenced training October 1964) M. C. CLAPPERTON, E. M. FRASER, H. J. M. NOON, J. WOOD.

Nursing Assistants — W. CRAIG, P. M. JACKSON, D. McVEIGH.

Tuberculosis Nurse — J. HEATLEY.

District Nurse (Wrekenton Area) — R. I. C. K. GARDNER.

Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives — M. DOBSON.

Municipal Midwives — S. POOLE, E. DOUGLAS, A. W. HAVERY, B. MENHAMS, P. M. GROSVENOR (resigned 5.1.64), D. C. GOLDSMITH (resigned 9.12.64), E. A. COLLINS, S. SHORT, J. MITCHELL (resigned 18.4.64), M. WATSON (commenced 13.1.64), S. M. BROSNAN (commenced 20.3.64), E. FREEMAN (commenced 25.5.64), M. D. JACKSON (commenced 14.12.64), E. TORRINGTON (part-time commenced 13.1.64).

Matron of Day Nursery — L. DONNELLY.

Supervisor of Domestic Helps — MRS. S. MAITLAND.

Assistant Supervisor — MRS. J. McDONAGH.

Mental Welfare Officers — L. M. GRAY (senior), W. H. WINSHIP, J. A. JEFFERSON.

Junior Training Centre — Supervisor — MRS. M. E. D. MOORE.

Assistant Supervisors — MRS. M. TAYLOR, MRS. P. COUTT, MRS. J. M. TAYLOR, MRS. P. WILSON, MRS. M. P. CURRAN.

Adult Training Centre — Supervisor — MR. F. HERDMAN.

Assistant Supervisors — MR. C. A. MARR, MR. R. MARR.

Clerical Staff — N. CRAIG, R. A. SUTTON, J. G. DOUGLAS, MISS P. NEILSON, MRS. M. GIBSON, MRS. M. WATSON, MRS. A. SMITH (resigned 1.5.64), MISS M. ALVEY (commenced 1.6.64), MISS N. SCOTT, R. W. E. BRATTON, S. RENFORTH, MRS. K. M. HUGHES (resigned 28.4.64), T. PICKERING, MRS. S. V. DUNLOP (resigned 10.6.64), MRS. S. LORIMER (resigned 28.2.64), MRS. B. CHANEY, MISS G. COOPER, MISS M. CARR (commenced 23.3.64), MISS M. M. FORAN (commenced 8.6.64), MISS E. RIPPON (commenced 8.6.64).

Welfare Foods Distributors — MISS E. A. HUNTER, MRS. D. ALDERDICE, MRS. S. JOHNSON.

Ambulance Officer — H. D. FLETCHER (retired 30.11.64), S. J. GRAHAM (commenced 1.12.64).

Deputy Ambulance Officer — C. SMITH.

*Caretakers — Greenesfield Health Centre — W. A. ROBB.
Wrekenton Health Centre — J. T. DALTON.*

2. STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Public Health Inspector and Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Act — G. CHARLTON†‡*

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Senior Housing Inspector — G. T. NEILSON†§*

Factories and Smoke Inspectors — J. HIGGINS†‡, T. J. WESTGARTH*†‡*

Food and Drugs and Senior Meat Inspector — S. WALKER†‡*

Senior District Inspectors — W. M. ALDER†‡, S. HILL*†‡§, B. HALL*†‡§*

District Inspectors — P. McCONVILLE†‡, M. G. CHRISTIE† (appointed 21.7.64).*

Public Analyst — W. GORDON CAREY.

Clerical Staff — M. GRAY, MRS. E. SUTTON, MRS. E. YOUNG, A. FENWICK, (appointed 10.2.64).

Disinfector — J. FREEMAN.

Rodent Operators — J. BAINBRIDGE, B. COCKBURN.

Smoke Investigator/Enumerator — J. WILSON.

Student Public Health Inspectors — J. SPOORS, J. L. GILES (appointed 14.9.64).

** Public Health Inspector's Certificate.*

† Public Health Inspector's Diploma.

‡ Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

§ Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

3. STAFF SHARED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY
AND THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Chest Physicians — E. L. FEINMANN, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., K. M. MARTISCHNIG, M.D.,
M.B., B.S.

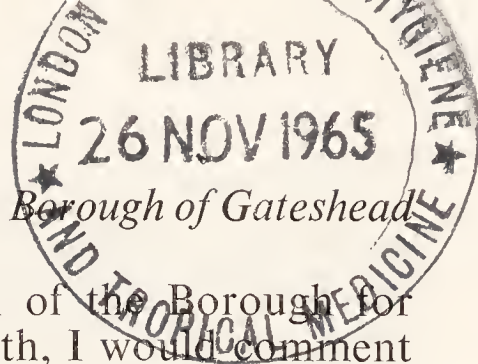
4. HOSPITAL STAFF GIVING SERVICE AT
LOCAL AUTHORITY CLINICS

Ophthalmic Surgeon — J. S. ARKLE, F.R.C.S.

Orthopaedic Surgeon — A. E. BREMNER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.

Remedial Gymnast — T. MIDGLEY, M.S.R.G.

Clerical Staff, Chest Clinic (as at 31st December, 1964) — MISS W. O'KANE, MRS.
M. CUSACK, MISS J. PAXTON, MISS C. CRILLEY, MISS E. ARMSTRONG.



To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Gateshead

In presenting the annual report on the health of the Borough for 1964, which is the 84th in the series and my own 29th, I would comment that this refers to my last complete year of service. It would therefore seem worth while to comment on the contemporary scene and proceed to a survey of the great changes that have happened in the County Borough during my years of service. These annual reports are not only full of facts relating to the modern environment, but studied as a serial feature they provide scope for a retrospective historical view of local social progress. It is proposed, therefore, to underline the striking features in the field of health during 1964 and then to go on to an account of what in my personal view has been a remarkable and indeed a dramatic progressive evolution in the development of a very large urban community, unfortunate enough to be the weaker of two twin towns of identical parentage sharing a tidal river.

The Year Reviewed

During 1964 the trend towards the steady improvement of local infantile mortality continued so that the figure approximates to the national rate and indeed is among the best of the comparable areas in the North East. This sensitive indicator shows that at long last the obvious improvements in the economic and environmental conditions of Gateshead are reflected in the annual statistics of the Registrar General. There were only 5 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, one death from specific infectious disease, no maternal deaths and no real threat from the infectious diseases in spite of a prevalence of measles. In contrast, one must however note the very high death rate from cancer and the tremendous mortality from diseases of the heart and circulation, including such conditions as the frequently fatal thrombosis of coronary and cerebral arteries. Accidental deaths, whether due to motor vehicles or to other causes also continue to take a heavy toll.

Consideration of the great plan of the Boundary Commission for the re-organisation of Local Government on Tyneside took a further step forward in 1964. There was a lengthy public enquiry in Newcastle, at which the various local authorities, well represented by eminent counsel and their juniors, put forward their views and supported these by official evidence as to how the particular proposals of the commission should be modified or abandoned. At the moment of writing the report of the commissioner who held the local enquiry is still under consideration by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, who seems to favour a unified Tyneside County Borough rather than the four enlarged County Boroughs.

Various shortages of professional personnel, medical, nursing and dental and of the allied auxiliary workers, continue to imperil the local government functions under the National Health and Education Acts, in much the same way as the hospital and other health services are also menaced by scarcity of qualified staff. It has now become apparent that the three-fold partition of the National Health Service must be overcome by some amalgamation of functions within the multiple administrative bodies set up by the Act.

Slum clearance continues in fulfilment of the so-called 20-year programme of 1955 at an accelerated tempo and well within the period. For the details of this project the reader is referred to Mr. Charlton's report. Enquiries have been held at regular intervals since 1955, and the large amount of extra work entailed for the public health inspectors' department has to be matched by the necessary legal formalities to be conducted by the Town Clerk and his staff, both before the holding of the enquiry and after the verdict. It was thought last year that a new menace in the form of "houses in multiple occupation" was under control in Gateshead, but this view has been too optimistic. Because of the growing number of these houses, Gateshead must join those authorities that seek an alteration in the law to permit of the prior inspection, approval and registration of houses proposed to be used for multiple occupation.

A Retrospect of 1936-1964

As a preface to this part of my introduction I can think of no better material than a comparison of the factual data relating to 1936 and the year that has just passed.

Comparison of Various Important Local Statistics of Gateshead 1936 and 1964

1. General					1936	1964
Population	..	..	..	..	119,027	101,760
Area of Borough (in acres)	..	..	..	..	4,468	4,559
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	31,398	32,981
Rateable value	..	..	..	..	£545,525	£3,206,673
Product of Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	£2,128	£13,000
Rate levied per pound	..	..	..	..	15/6d.	12/-d.
2. Unemployment						
Unemployed Males	..	..	..	..	6,028	1,122
Females	..	..	..	..	697	156
Boys	..	..	..	..	95	70
Girls	..	..	..	..	35	9
On short time						
Males	..	..	..	..	676	—
Females	..	..	..	..	322	—
Boys	..	..	..	..	14	—
Girls	..	..	..	..	50	—
3. Poverty						
<i>Persons relieved</i>					<i>Poor Relief</i>	<i>National Assistance</i>
Ordinary	..	..	..	..	4,323	9,013
Able-bodied	..	..	..	..	4,690	
4. Vital Statistics						
Live Births	..	..	..	..	2,050	1,964
Birth Rate per 1,000	..	..	..	..	17.2	19.3
Illegitimate birth rate per 100	..	..	..	..	2.9%	5.8%
Deaths	..	..	..	..	1,578	1,127
Death Rate per 1,000	..	..	..	..	13.2	11.0
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	91	21.3
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	6	nil
Deaths from tuberculosis (Rate per 1,000)	..	..	..	..	134 (1.12)	6 (0.058)
Deaths from Epidemic Diseases (Rate per 1,000)	..	..	..	..	92 (0.77)	3 (0.029)
Deaths from Cancer (Rate per 1,000)	..	..	..	..	199 (1.67)	237 (2.32)

In my first report for 1936, reference was made to the development of the southern part of the Borough and the laying bare of areas bordering on the river for industrial development. In particular, reference was made to the decision of the Special Areas Commission to establish the

Team Valley Trading Estate as a pioneer effort to remove the cause of the great economic distress that saw Gateshead with no fewer than 12,322 persons unemployed in 1932. The burden of unemployment had, of course, to be supported from the Poor Law, the cost of which fell on the local rates. At the same time there was a promise of the Special Areas Commission assisting in the provision of public facilities such as better hospital accommodation, new clinic facilities and other social developments.

Hospital Accommodation

One of the first tasks that awaited me was an instruction from the Council which had rejected the possible appropriation of the High Teams Poor Law Institution as a municipal general hospital, to submit a report on the possibility of building a new municipal general hospital with a note of the accommodation necessary, an estimate of the capital costs and the annual maintenance charges thereof. In September, 1936, this report was made and a survey of the number of beds available or in daily use by Gateshead patients was attached. These beds were situated in the voluntary hospitals of Newcastle, the Gateshead Children's Hospital, certain sanatorium beds used on a customer basis, the Borough isolation hospital at Sheriff Hill with 66 beds, Whinney House Tuberculosis Hospital with 44 beds and High Teams Institution with 176 general beds, 37 tuberculosis beds, 9 maternity beds, 36 beds for children and 126 beds for mental conditions, and finally the separately managed Stannington Mental Hospital (now St. Mary's Hospital), with 469 beds and providing accommodation at that time for 341 Gateshead patients.

It was therefore suggested that a new general hospital of 200-250 beds, with a maternity unit of 30 beds should be erected on the ground adjoining Sheriff Hill Hospital. This, together with the extended fever hospital, would provide in the first instance nearly 370 beds on a single site large enough to provide for future doubling of the accommodation. This project, which was accepted by the Council and the Ministry, received a promise of 75 per cent. of the capital cost from the Special Areas Commission. The Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital was extended by a new administration block and nurses' home, together with two cubicle wards. The Borough entered into the Agreement with other five County Boroughs as a partner in the Poole Joint Sanatorium Scheme to provide 40 sanatorium beds for the Borough. The plans for improving local hospital accommodation were well under way before the 1939-1945 war, when a boiler house, a laundry, mortuary and other buildings had been erected to serve both hospitals, when Sheriff Hill Hospital extensions were nearing completion and a start had been made on the erection of the foundations of the general hospital as witnessed by the foundation stones.

After the fall of France in 1940, work on the new general hospital was suspended by the Ministry of Health hospital officer, although the extensions to the isolation hospital and the provision of the joint services were allowed to continue. To relieve the local hospital shortages, the Council appropriated the hospital wards of the High Teams Institution as Bensham General Hospital, so that the management of the High Teams Emergency Hospital, as it had been designated by the Ministry of Health, passed to the Health Committee. To serve these hospitals, the existing

ambulances, re-inforced by new vehicles, were unified in a new municipal ambulance service, which anticipated the National Health Service Act by five years. During the later war years the building of the new general hospital was resumed on a modified plan laid down by the Ministry of Health, and once again work on the site produced a new maternity unit opened in 1943, followed later by the construction of the lower storeys of the projected general hospital accommodation. The air raids on London led to the evacuation of London Hospitals and the general hospital accommodation was therefore opened in September, 1944, for the reception of the Chiswick Maternity Unit of the West Middlesex Hospital, evacuated from London during the attack by the 'V' bombs. The end of the war saw the use of the 110 general beds of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Gateshead patients, and very soon the hospital was serving very obvious public needs. At the same time, extensions and adaptations to Stannington Mental Hospital were made with the aid of a Special Area Grant. The re-organisation of the hospitals under the National Health Service Act resulted in Gateshead handing over to the Regional Hospital Board nearly 1,300 hospital beds, with the loss of direct local authority control of the hospital services which it had done so much to provide. Before this lamentable transfer of hospitals to regional interests, it was fortunate that King George VI by Royal Command, named the new general hospital the "Queen Elizabeth Hospital", and that Her Majesty was able herself to open it on March 18th, 1948 shortly before the actual transfer. When the word 'lamentable' is used in connection with the hospitals, it is worth while to state that since the day of the takeover the only additional accommodation provided in the Gateshead hospitals has been a new 16-bed cubicle ward in the isolation hospital, which together with the upgrading of the blocks of Bensham General Hospital, were projects decided in principle by Gateshead Council before the appointed day.

From a Committee set up by the Regional Board to plan the full development of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, nothing concrete emerged until the publication of the 10-year plan by the Ministry of Health in 1962. Therein the future district general hospital on the Sheriff Hill Site is planned to consist of 1,000 beds to serve Gateshead and the adjoining areas of Felling, Whickham, part of Blaydon, Chester-le-Street rural district and possibly other fringe areas.

Since 1948, the Local Authority has been active in trying to secure from the Regional Hospital Board better provisions for the orthopaedic and chronic medical and surgical conditions which come under the general heading of geriatrics. It has also been thought necessary to draw the attention of the Board to the fact the central planning leaves the projected district hospital of 1975 with less beds available than existed in the hospital administrative area before the plan.

Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis

Next in importance and closely linked to the provision of hospitals was the question of infectious diseases, including tuberculosis. The statistics published show that over the period of my service the infectious diseases of a mortal nature virtually disappeared and that tuberculosis came under control. Gateshead survived an 11-year epidemic of very

severe diphtheria with 149 deaths during 1936-1947. It emerged fairly luckily from a poliomyelitis outbreak in 1952 and has witnessed the disappearance of mortality from measles and whooping cough in my time. As your medical officer of health, I was always specially interested in the problem of the infectious diseases. Thanks to the practice of diphtheria immunisation in 1940, its combination with whooping cough prevention in 1948 and the attachment of tetanus prevention in 1958, we have dealt with three preventable causes of death from bacterial infection. These precautions were followed by the use of B.C.G. Vaccine, first for contacts of tuberculosis cases and then for school children in their penultimate year of school attendance, with a resultant protection against fatal tuberculosis. The introduction, in 1957, of the Salk Poliomyelitis Vaccine for children and adults was later followed by the present technique of live oral vaccination with Sabin Vaccine. All these measures added to the traditional anti-smallpox vaccination, have entirely changed the picture of epidemic infectious diseases and tuberculosis.

A parallel advance in the realm of treatment began with the German discovery before the War of the efficiency of the "sulpha" drugs against bacterial infection, going on to the discovery and application of penicillin by Fleming and the elaboration of other antibiotics against nearly all known bacteria, including tuberculosis. The problems of treatment virtually disappeared leaving only the possibilities of attack by the infinitely small creatures called viruses, which seem to be even more widespread than the bacteria and for which satisfactory vaccines are difficult to prepare. The worst of these is, of course, the influenza virus, with its penchant for a very virulent and savage pandemic attack on the human race at regular intervals.

During this period of the conquest of infectious diseases, I feel it a privilege that the Council allowed me to continue part-time as the Fever Consultant in charge of Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital, in which capacity I served until 1962, when the load of other work for the Local Authority became too exacting. Certain original work in epidemiology was carried out through the health department, either by individuals or as part of team work with other experts. The most important research done was that concerning the study of diphtheria in two areas, published by Sir Percival Hartley and sponsored by the Medical Research Council. Other studies were made of salmonella infection, of the prevalence of measles, of the incidence of post-inoculation poliomyelitis and of the control of tuberculosis. The last mentioned study was a joint one with the local chest physicians and the health department staff, and the results were published in papers read before the Royal Society of Medicine.

Social Services

Until 1948, the public health medical officer was perhaps too pre-occupied with hospitals and infectious diseases to grapple with the various social problems that were traditionally left to the Poor Law Authority for solution. Nevertheless, there was health visiting, midwifery, school nursing, dental and an orthopaedic scheme concentrating on mothers and young children as well as a voluntary district nursing scheme to cover the Borough. In operating the new duties of the National Health Service Act for the Local Health Authority extensions had simply to

be made to the schemes already in existence, together with the organisation of the domestic help service and arrangements for the care of the mentally ill and subnormal outside the mental hospitals. As a basis for this work the pre-war central clinic had to be extended to cover areas remote from the centre of the town, and the practice of immunisation by injection closely allied to the school and child welfare services necessitated better premises than the church halls hired for one or two sessions per week. The Local Authority is therefore rightly in the midst of establishing a chain of what are best called 'district clinics' to distinguish them from the more elaborate health centres in which medical and dental and other services are available. In this field there is no doubt that every area is having to cope with the social misfit type of family unable to benefit properly from the facilities of the Welfare State and liable to lean heavily on public funds for maintenance. Indeed, it may be said that the prominence of the problem family is allied, to a certain extent, to the disappearance of the Poor Law, which usually offered indoor relief in such circumstances.

Mental Health

The transfer to the health authority of the functions that used to be carried out by the Poor Law authorities in respect of some of the mentally ill and subnormal persons has led to the emergence of proper arrangements for the training of the subnormal and a demand for hostels. It is doubted whether the last named are required in Gateshead, but times may change this attitude. The Local Authority, from very insignificant beginnings, is now in process of planning the erection of a large 70 place junior training centre at High Fell parallel with a 60-70 place adult training centre.

Nutrition

Associated with the unemployment and economic distress of the pre-war era, there was an undeniably high incidence of malnutrition. In a community where as many as 12,000 people had been unemployed, it is not to be wondered that a special study of the diet of the expectant mothers by Professor R. A. McCance in 1937 showed that out of 300 expectant mothers no fewer than 12 had a diet of less than 2,000 calories and 5 of these less than 1,500 calories, as compared with the normally accepted diet of 2,800 calories. The Local Authority answer to this problem in the priority classes had been to issue dried milk for the babies at a cheap rate in accordance with a means test, the price varying from 3d. to 1/6d. a packet, the bulk of the issue being charged at 6d. and 7d. The disappearance of unemployment in the last year or two before the war, the rationing scheme during the war and the policy of school meals and full employment since the war have seen the end of malnutrition as a condition in the young and middle-aged people of the north-east, although there is still reason to think that some of the elderly persons living in their own homes are not properly nourished.

Housing

In 1935/36, an overcrowding survey showed that Gateshead was one of the worst county boroughs of England in relation to overcrowding.

No fewer than 4,758 families were overcrowded out of a total of 31,181 living in 29,026 houses. The slum clearance made possible by the Act of 1930 had just begun, but it proceeded very slowly until 1939 when it was suspended until the post war years without any houses being built to relieve the gross overcrowding and with only a relatively few houses built in replacement of the slums. It was not until 1953 that attention was once again directed to the problem of clearing the slums and a housing survey by the public health inspectors yielded the information that 4,000 houses were then definitely unfit for habitation, 11,431 houses only capable of being patched up for a period, and 4,673 capable of being repaired and made fit in every way. In 1955, the signal was given for the recommencement of slum clearance and the 20-year programme was initiated. The first clearance area in the Chandless district involved 922 separate households and must have been one of the largest ever undertaken by any authority. Today that site stands covered with modern blocks of flats and terraced houses adjacent to the Sunderland Road by-pass which was thought of long before the war, but which only materialised in the present decade.

The Progress of Health in Gateshead

The following time-table underlines much of what has been said above. It is a record of a continual and steady improvement of the public services provided by the local authority for its citizens, and it is a record of which the personnel of the health department as well as the members of the health committee have no reason to be ashamed.

- 1936 Overcrowding Survey (15.8% of families overcrowded).
 Birthday Trust Fund Gifts for Expectant Mothers.
 Team Valley Trading Estate Founded.
 Start of Gateshead Diphtheria Outbreak, 1936-1947.
- 1937 Municipal Midwifery Service started.
 Joint Committee Clinic for Venereal Diseases opened in Newcastle General Hospital.
- 1938 Opening of Greenesfield Health Centre.
 Beginning of Sheriff Hill Hospital Modernisation and Extension.
- 1939 Beginning of New General Hospital at Sheriff Hill.
- 1940 Start of Diphtheria Inoculation movement.
 Orthopaedic scheme for Gateshead Children begun.
- 1941 Appropriation of hospital portion of High Teams Institution as Bensham Hospital.
- 1942 Holy Trinity Nursery opened.
- 1943 Maternity Unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital opened.
 Municipal Ambulance Service instituted.
- 1944 Day Nurseries opened at Old Fold, Teams and South Close districts.
 Joint Laboratory Service instituted.
- 1945 Home Help Service instituted for maternity cases.
 Opening of New General Hospital (now Queen Elizabeth Hospital).
- 1946 Queen Elizabeth Hospital recognised for training of Midwives (Part II), and Nurses.

- 1947 Child Guidance Service (Junior Psychiatric Clinic) started.
- 1948 Official opening of new Queen Elizabeth Hospital.
Start of new Local Authority service under National Health Service Act, 1946.
- 1952 Meteorology Station opened.
Poliomyelitis epidemic.
Opening of New Ambulance Station.
Opening of small Occupation Centre in Gladstone Terrace.
- 1953 Housing Survey — Unfit houses 4,000, Houses worthy of longer life 11,431, Houses worthy of improvement 4,673.
Transfer of Occupation Centre to St. Columba's Hall.
- 1955 Opening of Carr Hill Health Centre.
- 1956 Chandless Clearance Area — 922 separate households.
Transfer of Occupation Centre to Old Fold.
- 1957 Use of Triple Antigen in Immunisation.
Use of Poliomyelitis Salk Vaccine.
- 1958 Transfer of Chest Clinic to Whinney House Hospital.
Opening of Odelca 100 mm. Unit at Greenesfield.
- 1960 Erection of Wrekenton Health Centre.
- 1961 South Close Adult Training Centre opened.
- 1961 Marie Curie Foundation Scheme started.
- 1964 Lobley Hill combined Clinic and Library opened.

Acknowledgements

During my lengthy service I have been conscious that in my efforts I enjoyed the full support of successive health committees, in spite of annual changes in the membership necessitated by passing events such as elections. I have had three chairmen, the late Alderman P. S. Hancock, O.B.E., the late Councillor George Robertson, and now Councillor William Collins, and as vice-chairmen I had the late Councillor Mrs. A. Hall, the late Councillor George Neilson, Alderman J. T. Etherington, and finally Councillor A. V. Turnbull, J.P. All of these have ably steered the health policies of my department through the Council. To this help there must also be added the full co-operation given by my chief officer colleagues in the service of the corporation, notably the two Town Clerks, the three Borough Treasurers and the three Directors of Education. Yet none of this would have availed without loyal co-operation and excellent assistance from my two Deputy Medical Officers of Health, Dr. M. B. Herbst and Dr. J. M. Bainbridge, and also the five Chief Public Health Officers and their deputies, including especially Mr. George Neilson, who has latterly been mainly responsible for all the unfit housing and slum clearance activities of the department. It must be put on record that in Gateshead very close co-operation and friendly relations are the rule between the medical officer of health and the chief public health inspector and his staff and these too are reflected in the attitudes of subordinate staff.

Other members of the medical staff, too numerous to mention, the two chief dental officers and their able assistants, the three superintendent

health visitors and a large number of subordinate health visiting staff have all contributed to the work that has been narrated in this and previous reports. Similar tribute must be paid to the two superintendents of midwifery and the municipal midwives employed by the local authority, and also the the three superintendents of the Gateshead District Nursing Association and the midwives and district nurses who have done such valiant service on behalf of the townspeople. One must also refer, in appreciation, to the way in which the Gateshead Municipal Ambulance Service was developed and efficiently managed by the Chief Ambulance Officers and their subordinate staff, who were ably seconded by a picked band of expert drivers.

Last but not least, one must mention the very generous and painstaking efforts of the clerical and secretarial staff employed in the department, without whom it would be impossible to give the figures and cite the data which have been set out in the annual reports of the medical officer of health.

I am not conscious of having omitted any members of the staff in this citation, but I would also mention with appreciation my colleagues in the hospital and family practitioner services of the town, with whom at the officer level the most friendly collaboration has been the rule.

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES GRANT,

Medical Officer of Health

PART I

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE BOROUGH

A. General Remarks

The changes in contemporary Gateshead proceeds slowly and at the end of the year slum clearance had made available large sites for further development, while a planned redevelopment of the centre of the town was in its early stages. It is noteworthy that modern traffic conditions are tending to drive shoppers and business interests out of the centre of the Tyneside conurbation into the less congested and decentred areas of new development such as are being planned in Gateshead. This development is being rendered all the more essential as the time for implementing the Boundary Commission recommendations approaches.

B. Climatic Conditions

The year 1964 was somewhat disappointing inasmuch as the amount of sunshine failed to march in line with the lack of rainfall. 1,191 hours of sunshine is a long way below the 1,377 hours which have been the annual average of bright sunshine since the meteorological station was established. March was the wettest month followed by August and June, so that for many holiday weather was lacking. On the whole, the winter was not unduly hard as snow was only recorded on 8 days in the spring and 5 days in December, while the mean atmospheric temperature was fairly comfortable throughout the year.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION — SHERIFF HILL HOSPITAL

Summary of Climatological Conditions 1952-1964

Mean daily maximum	—	yearly average	..	..	52.6°F
Mean daily minimum	—	„	„	..	41.8°F
Mean	..	..	..	..	47°F
Absolute maximum	..	..	..	..	86°F on 12th Aug., 1953
Absolute minimum	..	..	..	..	16°F on 20th Feb., 1955
Ground frosts	..	..	..	..	70
Humidity	..	..	..	..	80.2%
Rainfall	..	..	..	..	25.7 inches
Dry days	..	..	..	..	195
Sunshine	..	..	..	..	1,377 hours
Greatest amount of sunshine in one day	..	..	..	..	16.6 hours on 14th June, 1957
Winds	—	yearly average	..	..	N. 25, N.N.E. 2, N.E. 27, E.N.E. —, E. 21, E.S.E. 1, S.E. 29, S.S.E. 2, S. 36, S.S.W. 4, S.W. 62, W.S.W. 2, W. 64, W.N.W. 1, N.W. 75, N.N.W. 4.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1964

	Temperature (Deg. Fahr.) in shade			Rainfall			Sunshine		Humidity %	Ground frosts	Days of snow
	Highest Max.	Mean Max.	Lowest Min.	Mean Min.	Total in inches	Dry days	Total hours	Max. hours			
January	52	42.8	25	34.8	.52	23	62.3	6.8	87.4	11	—
February	53	42.8	23	34.7	.86	23	52.4	7.2	90	13	5
March	47	40.2	30	34.8	3.65	9	30.5	8.7	91.6	14	3
April	62	52.2	32	41.3	2.07	17	87.2	12	80	3	—
May	73	60.3	41	46.6	1.02	22	196.4	14.1	70.2	—	—
June	71	61.2	39	48.7	2.55	15	120.5	11.9	73.8	—	—
July	74	64.8	44	52	1.17	22	148.7	13.6	68.8	—	—
August	76	64	43	51.5	2.93	16	140.3	12.7	79.5	—	—
September	71	62.4	36	48.8	1.91	19	150.5	9.8	77	—	—
October	61	53	32	42	.41	18	85.8	8.2	84	2	—
November	58	48.6	28	40	1.01	14	69.6	6.4	81.8	6	—
December	54	40.3	22	32.7	1.88	12	47.3	6	88.2	17	5
	76 on 5th Aug.	52.7	22 on 28th Dec.	42.3	19.98	210	1191.5	14.1 on 26th May	81	66	13

Wind Directions :— N. 15, N.N.E. 2, N.E. 31, E.N.E.—, E. 23, E.S.E. 1, S.E. 31, S.S.E. 7, S. 26, S.S.W. 3, S.W. 57, W.S.W. 3, W. 66, W.N.W. 2, N.W. 92, N.N.W. 6.

C. Social Conditions

Unemployment

Mr. E. L. King, Manager of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange, Windmill Hills, has kindly supplied me with the following information relating to employment in the district. At the end of the year there were 1,122 men, 70 boys, 156 women and 9 girls unemployed, giving a total of 1,357, including 48 men and 1 woman on temporary short-time working.

Registered disabled persons numbered 1,784, 1,546 men, 11 boys, 219 women and 8 girls. 201 men, 3 boys, 19 women and 1 girl were unemployed, a total of 224. Of these, 13 men and 4 women were considered to be so severely disabled as to be only suitable for employment under sheltered conditions.

During the year, the Disablement Resettlement Officer made regular visits to the Dunston Hill and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals and maintained close contact with the other hospitals in the Group, the Local Authority Welfare Services and local doctors.

At the beginning of the year a Resettlement Clinic was inaugurated at Bensham Hospital. The purpose of the clinic is to advise selected disabled persons on employment and social problems. It is under the direction of Dr. J. K. Hingorani and is attended by the hospital almoner and the disablement resettlement officers from the areas in which the patients reside.

In all, 31 persons were seen by the clinic during 1964 and in several cases satisfactory resettlement in employment was achieved very quickly.

During 1964, 51 persons from the Gateshead area attended Felling Industrial Rehabilitation Unit made up of 40 men, 9 women and 2 boys. After rehabilitation 7 men were able to take courses of training in skilled and semi-skilled occupations. In addition, 3 disabled men and 1 disabled woman were trained in various trades after making direct application to the Employment Exchange.

The Gateshead Disablement Advisory Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. F. A. Kelly, J.P., F.I.O.B., met four times during the year. The function of the Committee is to advise and assist the Minister in matters relating to the employment of disabled persons in the area.

Youth Employment

Miss J. Charlton, the Youth Employment Officer, in her report for 1964 emphasises that the problems of finding suitable employment for boys persisted during the year. Efforts to solve the problem included a local conference of interested persons, with the result that a working party

was set up to report upon the action required which is now being implemented. There appears to be a need for improved training facilities for young people, coupled with a tendency for employers to raise their standards for entry into work.

National Assistance

The following information was supplied by Mr. R. G. Davies, Manager of the local area office of the National Assistance Board. 6,902 persons were in receipt of National Assistance at the end of the year. These were made up of 655 unemployed, 1,088 persons suffering from physical or mental illness, 3,929 retirement pensioners, 126 non-contributory old age pensioners and 1,104 others. The last group includes widows of all ages in receipt of widows pensions or allowances, women who are separated from their husbands, and aged persons of both sexes who have no entitlement to pensions.

National Insurance Sick Benefit

Information as to the new claims for sickness benefit in the three offices serving the area are supplied each week to the health department. Sufficient experience has now been accumulated to show that the normal range is somewhere between 450 and 600 claims per week. Experience in 1964 showed that in the first two weeks of January, sickness claims amounted to 700 and 670 and that the normal rate was exceeded again during the period October to November, when the highest number of claims was approximately 730. On the whole this area was free from any major epidemics of sickness among the population.

Welfare Services

Residential Accommodation

There are available at Fountain View 310 places for welfare residents of both sexes, 16 places at Beacon View (8 males and 8 females), and 19 places for men at Birchholme, a total of 345 places, which is the number that was available in 1960. Although no addition has been made since that year, the provision of a series of small new hostels to replace the large institution is under consideration. This process, however, will take many years.

On the last day of 1964 there were 277 persons in Fountain View, 16 at Beacon View and 19 at Birchholme, a total of 312, an increase on the figure of 287 applicable to 1963. Holly House is maintained as accommodation of a temporary nature for families who are evicted and are entirely homeless. At the end of the year there were 26 persons accommodated, embracing 5 married couples, one woman living apart from her husband and 15 children.

Deprived Children

I am indebted to Mr. E. B. Roycroft, the Children's Officer, for the following figures and account of the work of the Children's Department :

"During the year 117 children were received into the care of the Council and 117 were discharged. Of the children received into care, twelve were subjects of Fit Person Orders made in the Magistrates' Courts, and the remainder were received by the request of their parents or guardian. More than half the children (81) came into care because of the inability of the parent to cope due to mental or physical illness, confinement or other incapacity. Marital Disharmony and desertion by the mother was another cause for receiving children into care (17), but only a small number (4) were received because eviction made the family homeless. The great majority of children being discharged from care were being returned to the care of parents, guardians, relatives or friends (101). Of the remainder most have reached the age of 18 years and others were adopted.

The number of children cared for in the three Establishments of this Authority has remained the same (34) but due to a slight increase in the number of Catholic children received into care it has been necessary to make more use of voluntary homes. This may also have some bearing on the fact that the number of children boarded out has slightly decreased, but also affecting this figure is the increased number of children committed to the care of the Authority under Fit Person Orders (12).

The effects of the Children & Young Person Act 1963, are now being dramatically felt in the work of the Department. The number of applications for reception into care which are now averted by preventive action has doubled in the past two years and 70 new cases were investigated and helped in the past twelve months. The Department permanently carries a case load of about fifty families in difficulties including over 250 children who receive regular visits, advice and assistance. This assistance can include advice with budgeting, hire purchase problems, care of children, control of teen-agers, or help with marital difficulties, illness and housing. By giving financial and material help under Section 1 of the Act it has been possible to prevent approximately twenty children from coming into care.

The Department is now also receiving requests from parents in all walks of life for advice and guidance with their children, especially with teen-age children. In this work the Officers co-operate closely with the Child Guidance Unit and other agencies, in an endeavour to help parents and to reduce the incidence of delinquency. The Children's Officer is advised by the Chief Constable, of any children committing offences who are not brought before the Juvenile Court. In some cases it is decided the Child Care Officer should make further investigations into the family situation and with the willing consent of the parents, give some extra supervision to the child.

In accepting the supervision of children and young persons committed to approved school the Department has undertaken a heavy but worthwhile burden. A close contact has been made with the Approved Schools concerned and over 30 children are at the moment being visited and assisted by Officers of the Department. It is considered essential by all connected with this work that to ensure the best chances of success, training in the approved school must be followed by adequate support and supervision.

Two points arise from studying these statistics which can be of great encouragement to this Authority. Firstly despite the fact that nationally the number of children in care has risen significantly over the past four years, this does not apply to Gateshead where the number of children actually in the care of the Borough is at its lowest level since the Children Act was introduced in 1948. This may largely be attributed to the Children's Committee decision to expand the work of Prevention and Rehabilitation and take full advantage of new legislation supporting this idea.

Secondly the number of children who are received into care and then discharged to the care of parents, relatives or friends within the year has more than doubled since 1961. This indicates increased facilities for helping families and increasing skill on the part of Officers in rehabilitating families and returning children to their own homes, in the shortest possible time, and so reducing to a minimum the pain, upset and misery of separation.

Total No. of children in care	..	..	..	..	147
„ „ „ „ in approved schools	..	..	..	..	21
„ „ „ „ in residential homes	..	..	..	..	34
„ „ „ „ boarded out	..	..	..	..	64
„ „ „ „ under supervision	..	..	..	..	14
„ „ „ „ in Voluntary Homes	..	..	..	..	18
„ „ „ „ in Special Schools	..	..	..	..	6
„ „ „ „ in residential employment	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ „ „ in Working Girls' Hostel	..	..	..	..	3
No. of other authorities' girls in Working Girls' Hostel	..	..	..	..	8

D. General Statistics of the Area

Population (estimated by Registrar General, 1964), (includes added area)	101,760
Area of Borough (in acres)	4,559
Population of present Borough (Census 1931) (includes added area)	124,545
Population of present Borough (Census 1961)	103,261
No. of inhabited houses (Valuation Lists)	32,981
Density of population per acre	22.32
No. of persons per inhabited house	3.0
Rateable value at 1st April, 1964	£3,206,673
Estimated product of penny rate 1964-65	£13,000
Rate in the £ levied in 1964-65	12/-

E. Vital Statistics for 1964

			Males	Females	Total	Rate
Live Births						
Legitimate	..	..	943	907	1,850	
Illegitimate	..	..	60	54	114	5.8% of total live births.
			1,003	961	1,964	19.3 per 1,000 population (area comparability factor 0.97).

			Males	Females	Total	Rate
<i>Still Births</i>						
Legitimate	..	..	28	17	45	
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	1	
			28	18	46	
<i>Total live and still births</i>			1,031	979	2,010	22.8 per 1,000 total births.
<i>Deaths</i>	..	..	598	529	1,127	11.0 per 1,000 population (area comparability factor 1.19).
<i>Excess of births over deaths</i>			405	432	837	
<i>Infantile Mortality</i>						
Legitimate	..	..	23	18	41	22.1 per 1,000 live legitimate births.
Illegitimate	..	..	1	—	1	8.7 per 1,000 live illegitimate births.
			24	18	42	21.3 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Neonatal Mortality</i>						
Legitimate	..	..	15	11	26	
Illegitimate	..	..	1	—	1	
			16	11	27	13.7 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Early Neonatal Mortality</i> (deaths of infants under 1 week)						
Legitimate	..	..	12	11	23	
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
			12	11	23	11.7 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Perinatal Mortality</i> (Stillbirths — deaths of infants under 1 week)						
Legitimate	..	..	40	28	68	
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	1	
			40	29	69	34.3 per 1,000 live and still-births.
<i>Maternal Mortality</i> (including abortion)						
Deaths from Tuberculosis	..	..	—	—	—
(a) Pulmonary	..	..	3	2	5	.049 per 1,000 population.
(b) Non-pulmonary	..	..	—	1	1	.009 per 1,000 population.
			3	3	6	.058 per 1,000 population.
<i>Deaths from Epidemic Diseases</i>						
Virus encephalitis	..	..	1	—	1	
Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.)	..	..	2	—	2	
			3	—	3	.029 per 1,000 population.
<i>Deaths from Cancer</i>	..	..	146	91	237	2.32 per 1,000 population.

Population

During 1964 the population of Gateshead declined by another 800 persons as compared with the previous year and this is difficult to understand in the light of the excess of births over deaths in 1964 of 837. The figure is an estimate and it may be that the Registrar General is continuing the trend of decline noted in previous years into 1964. Local knowledge

AVERAGE BIRTH RATES

1901-1910
34.8

1911-1920
28.7

1921-1930
24.0

1931-1940
18.1

1941-1950
20.1

1951-1960
17.9

County Borough of Gateshead
BIRTH RATES per 1,000 population
1900 - 1964

GATESHEAD

ENGLAND & WALES

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

AVERAGE DEATH RATES

1901-1910
17.4

1911-1920
16.9

1921-1930
13.7

1931-1940
13.1

1941-1950
13.1

1951-1960
11.7

County Borough of Gateshead DEATH RATES per 1,000 population (at all ages and from all causes)

1900 - 1964

GATESHEAD —————
ENGLAND & WALES - - - - -

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

suggests that rehousing of displaced persons outside the area did not occur to any great extent in 1964.

Births

The birth rate for 1964 of 19.3 per thousand is slightly in excess of the national rate of 18.4, but really a continuation of the higher level noted in the last four years.

The number of stillbirths increased somewhat for no very obvious reason.

The illegitimate birth rate, normally expressed as a percentage of the total was, at 5.8 per cent slightly higher than 1963, but very much below the national average and that of other industrial areas.

Deaths

The death rate at 11 per thousand is quite comparable with the national rate of 11.3, and has to be modified by the area comparability factor of 1.19, when it emerges as 13.1, an improvement on 1963, when it was 14.7.

645 deaths, more than half the total deaths in Gateshead, occurred in hospitals and similar institutions. In the hospitals within the Borough there were 650 deaths, but of these only 403 were of Gateshead patients. The Gateshead hospital deaths numbering 270 males and 380 females, took place in the hospitals mentioned below :—

Bensham General Hospital	..	..	259
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	..	..	332
Children's Hospital	..	..	4
Whinney House Hospital	..	..	8
Welfare Hostels and Nursing Home			47

Of the 259 deaths of Gateshead residents outside the Borough, 242 took place in hospitals as follows :—

Normans Riding Hospital	..	..	15
Newcastle General Hospital	..	..	26
Dunston Hill Hospital	..	..	122
Whickham Cottage Hospital	..	..	4
Conrad House, Newcastle	..	..	11
Shotley Bridge	..	..	15
Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle			21
St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington	..		9
Leazes Baby Hospital	..	..	4
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital	..		1
Miscellaneous Hospitals and Nursing Homes	..	..	14

247 persons from outside the Borough died in Gateshead institutions, as compared with 242 Gateshead patients who died in institutions outside the Borough.

The infantile mortality rate of 21.3 per thousand live births has to be compared with the national rate of 20, and in the light of the previous history the figure for 1964 is very satisfactory as it continues broadly the

same rate as that experienced in 1963. The principal causes of infant deaths are listed below and it will be noted that the neonatal mortality, due to prematurity and congenital malformations, present the main problem of prevention. The number of chest and alimentary infections which operate in the later months of infancy are minimal, although they are conditions susceptible to prevention and treatment.

Pneumonia	3
Bronchopneumonia	4
Bronchitis	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1
Gastro-enteritis	2
Congenital malformations	10
Prematurity	12
Intracranial haemorrhage	2
Respiratory failure	2
Atelectasis	1
Diaphragmatic hernia	1
Hyaline membrane disease	1
Asphyxia (misadventure)	1

The happy absence of maternal mortality in 1962 and 1963 was clouded by the registration in 1964, after a coroner's inquest, of the death of a young girl from the sequelae to septic abortion, considered by the jury to be self-induced, in the latter end of 1963.

Actually in 1964 there was no maternal mortality. It has always been a bone of contention that death following an induced abortion should not be classified as maternal mortality but rather a death by violence. With this attitude the Registrar General does not agree.

So far as the general population was concerned, the killing diseases were :—

Diseases of heart and circulation (heart disease 371, vascular lesions of nervous system 133, other circulatory diseases 52)	556	(49%)
Cancer	237	(21%)
Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	127	(11%)
Influenza	1	
Tuberculosis	6	
Motor Vehicle accidents	18	
All other accidents	19	
Suicide	13	

721 of the deaths were in persons over the age of 65 years, *i.e.* 63.9%. The average age at death was 65.8 years.

A very happy circumstance is the fall in the deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, the 5 deaths of 1964 being the lowest in our history, and of these 3 were in persons over 70 years of age who had suffered from the disease in a chronic incurable form for many years and were potential sources of infection to the healthy members of the community.

The figures for mortality from cancer of the lung and intestinal cancer remain high, but there appears to be a slight fall in the deaths from cancer of the womb. The progress of mortality from cancer, including deaths from cancer of the lung, is illustrated in the following list, and a table is also given showing mortality from cancer of the lung over the last twenty-nine years.

<i>Age distribution</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
0-15 years	..	..		2	—	2
15-25 years	..	..		—	—	—
25-45 years	..	..		3	10	13
45-65 years	..	..		62	35	97
65-75 years	..	..		51	23	74
75 years and over	..	..		28	23	51
				146	91	237

<i>Site of the disease</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Larynx	..	..	..	3	1	4
Maxilla	..	..	..	—	—	—
Lip	..	..	..	—	—	—
Tongue	..	..	..	—	1	1
Mouth	..	..	..	1	—	1
Throat	..	..	..	1	—	1
Oesophagus	..	..	..	4	3	7
Stomach	..	..	..	17	16	33
Intestine (small)	..	..	..	—	—	—
Caecum, colon	..	..	..	8	13	21
Rectum	..	..	..	10	2	12
Gall Bladder	..	..	..	—	—	—
Liver	..	..	..	2	1	3
Pancreas	..	..	..	4	3	7
Peritoneum	..	..	..	—	—	—
Lung, bronchus	..	..	..	64	5	69
Mediastinum	..	..	..	—	—	—
Breast	..	..	..	—	20	20
Cervix Uteri	..	..	..	—	7	7
Ovary	..	..	..	—	7	7
Vulva	..	..	..	—	—	—
Prostate	..	..	..	7	—	7
Testis	..	..	..	—	—	—
Kidney	..	..	..	3	1	4
Bladder	..	..	..	7	2	9
Brain	..	..	..	5	1	6
Other and unspecified sites				10	8	18
				146	91	237

Mortality from lung cancer over the last 29 years :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>
1964	69	1956	43	1948	29	1940	12
1963	76	1955	53	1947	33	1939	16
1962	65	1954	46	1946	18	1938	10
1961	82	1953	41	1945	17	1937	5
1960	70	1952	43	1944	13	1936	8
1959	60	1951	31	1943	17		
1958	52	1950	40	1942	20		
1957	61	1949	23	1941	18		

Accidents

The police returns of road traffic accidents in 1964 within the Borough continued to show depressing figures, although there were 52 less accidents than last year. There were 225 road accidents involving personal injury by vehicles, resulting in 287 persons being injured, 14 fatally. The fatal accidents involved 3 boys, aged, 2, 3 and 14, and 6 adult males aged from 32 to 70, and 5 females aged 15, 57, 71, 73 and 81. In addition to the fatalities there were 102 persons seriously injured and 171 slightly injured,

a total of 273 persons altogether being involved. The highest incidence of accidents was during January, October, November and December. The persons who were killed were 9 pedestrians, 1 motor cyclist and 1 pedal cyclist. Three passengers in motor vehicles were also killed. 136 of the accidents occurred during the hours of daylight.

On analysing the emergency ambulance calls attended to by the Gateshead Ambulance Service in 1964, it appears that 1,745 persons were removed to hospital. Of these, 603 were accidentally injured and 263 were taken ill in the street, a total of 866. 172 persons were injured at home and 112 suddenly taken ill, a total of 284. 152 persons were injured at work and 45 were taken ill at work, a total of 197. Other emergencies dealt with numbered 398.

On further classification of these ambulance calls it appears that 32 persons were burned at home, 11 at work and 1 in the street. Cuts and wounds were sustained by 110 persons in the home, 487 in the street and 120 at work. Fractures were sustained by 30 in the home, 115 in the street and 21 at work. Other emergencies numbered 58 in the home, 209 in the street and 131 at work.

Of this group, 24 males and 16 females were certified as dead on arrival at hospital. These consisted of 3 home suicides (1 male and 2 female), 2 street suicides (males), 8 home collapses (3 males and 5 females), 16 street collapses (10 males and 6 females), 4 males who collapsed at work, 1 male who had been involved in an accident at work, 5 street accidents (3 males and 2 females), and 1 female involved in an accident at home.

Among the death returns of Gateshead residents in 1964 (which included deaths occurring outside the Borough), accidental deaths numbered 37, of which 18 were due to motor vehicle accidents involving 12 males and 6 females, with ages ranging from 2 years to 84 years. 13 were pedestrians (8 males and 5 females). Two victims were pedal cyclists who apparently emerged from side roads on to a main road, one was a motorist in whose case the accidental death was related to an acute coronary attack, one death was of a passenger in a car involved in an accident and one was a passenger alighting from a moving public service vehicle.

The other 19 accidental deaths were of 12 males and 7 females whose ages ranged from two months to 93 years. Seven (4 males and 3 females), were victims of falls at home, their ages ranging from 64—83 years, with 5 of the deaths in persons over 78 years of age. One man of 45 died at work. Three deaths were from burns sustained in the home in persons aged 62, 79 and 83 years. Four persons died of asphyxia, a two month child being a cot death, a woman of 35 years due to inhalation of vomit during her sleep (inquest), a woman of 93 years from coal gas poisoning and a man of 26 years was overcome by fumes while working in a tank at work. There were two deaths from poisoning, a male of 34 years, who had consumed an overdose of aspirin and a female of 46 who had taken an overdose of barbiturates. A man of 51 years was found drowned in the River Tyne, and a man of 51 years was accidentally crushed by a coal tub while at work. Altogether, then, there were 15 fatal accidents in the home, 3 at work and one drowning.

COMPARABLE STATISTICS FOR NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE AND NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES, 1964

	<i>New- castle upon Tyne</i>	<i>Gates- head</i>	<i>South Shields</i>	<i>Sunder- land</i>	<i>Tyne- mouth</i>	<i>North- umber- land</i>	<i>Durham</i>
Registrar General's estimated population	260,750	101,760	108,770	189,630	71,890	494,440	970,190
Comparability factor							
(a) Births	1.00	0.97	0.98	0.94	0.98	1.01	0.98
(b) Deaths	1.11	1.19	0.18	1.25	1.16	1.07	1.22
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	17.32	19.3	18.2	19.34	20.08	16.80	18.3
Birth rate as adjusted by factor	17.32	18.7	17.8	18.18	19.68	16.96	17.9
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	12.18	11.0	11.03	10.95	10.54	11.76	10.9
Death rate as adjusted by factor	13.52	13.1	13.02	13.69	12.23	12.58	13.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	9.6	5.8	5.7	5.48	4.80	3.82	4.2
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	25.02	21.3	22.2	24.54	28.32	20.11	22.9
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	16.16	13.7	15.6	16.09	16.96	14.93	15.7
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	32.18	34.3	36.5	36.54	33.93	28.5	33.5
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	18.05	22.8	22.1	21.87	20.00	15.99	20.0
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	—	0.49*	—	0.27	0.00	0.12	0.11
Tuberculosis rates per 1,000 population							
(a) primary notifi- cation —							
respiratory	0.564	0.825	0.73	0.42	0.39	0.37	0.33
non-respiratory	0.092	0.166	0.06	0.09	0.11	0.04	0.07
(b) deaths							
respiratory	0.058	0.049	0.007	0.037	0.03	0.03	0.06
non-respiratory	0.004	0.009	0.009	0.005	0.00	0.006	0.004
<i>Death Rates per 1,000 population from :—</i>							
Cancer—all forms (including leukaemia and aleukaemia	2.52	2.41	2.25	2.41	1.86	2.15	1.97
Cancer—lungs and bronchus only	0.82	0.67	0.67	0.62	0.60	0.52	0.49
Meningococcal infections	0.008	—	—	0.005	—	0.002	0.002
Whooping Cough	0.004	—	—	—	—	—	0.001
Influenza	—	0.00	0.009	0.015	—	0.006	0.006
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	0.002	—
Acute poliomyelitis and encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0.004	0.01	0.009	0.015	0.03	0.01	0.007
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	0.22	1.01	0.5	0.82	1.41	0.06	0.39

*The maternal death responsible for the statistic occurred in 1963 but was registered in 1964.

F. Statistical Rates for the last ten years

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Population	101,760	102,560	103,120	103,290	108,560	109,100	109,900	110,900	111,900	113,200
Births :										
uncorrected										
number	2,597	2,547	2,522	2,512	2,403	2,506	2,480	2,476	2,354	2,244
net number	1,964	2,005	2,018	1,984	1,973	2,011	1,984	2,064	1,951	1,911
Birth rate per										
1,000 pop'n	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	18.1	18.4	18.5	18.6	17.4	16.5
Deaths :										
registered	1,127	1,311	1,264	1,393	1,322	1,199	1,371	1,381	1,395	1,499
crude rate	11.0	12.7	12.2	13.4	12.1	10.9	12.4	12.4	12.4	13.1
transfers out	259	297	296	282	231	210	263	229	245	255
transfers in	259	256	245	206	215	241	196	125	130	100
Net number	1,127	1,270	1,213	1,317	1,306	1,230	1,294	1,277	1,280	1,344
Death rate per										
1,000 pop'n.	11.0	12.3	11.7	12.7	12.0	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.4	11.5
Infantile										
mortality :										
deaths	42	44	59	58	57	47	60	57	56	55
rate per 1,000										
live births	21.3	21.9	29.2	29.2	28.8	23.3	30.2	27.6	28.7	30.1
Maternal death										
rate per 1,000										
total births	—	.49	—	.49	.99	.48	.48	.47	.99	2.00
Tuberculosis										
death rate	.058	.136	.145	.067	0.055	0.19	.020	.18	.17	0.22
Zymotic death										
rate	.029	.009	.029	.04	.13	.17	.1	0.27	0.017	0.020
Cancer death										
rate	2.32	2.52	2.24	2.4	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.93	1.79	2.22

PART II

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

There have been no real changes during 1964 which affect the accommodation available for the hospital treatment, both out-patient and in-patient, of the people who live in the Hospital Management Committee Area, embracing both Felling, Wickham and other zones of County Durham. The planning of the facilities to be made available in the new hospital plan has begun so far as it affects the population of Gateshead together with the adjoining urban districts of Felling, Wickham and Blaydon and other smaller areas of Durham County. Some difference arose with the Regional Hospital Board on the number of population to be catered for, but it is understood that the compromise figure of 180,000 has been taken as the basis for the necessary calculations on which to provide the national norms which have been recognised as reasonable hospital provision. Already it is understood that the out-patient department and the distribution of the beds have been planned in detail, and it is anticipated that work will begin on the new out-patient departments towards the end of 1965.

The difficulties arising from a general shortage of hospital accommodation for the area have continued during 1964, but with less pressure due to a better management of the beds and a more frequent turn-over of patients. The local paediatric facilities, under Dr. Jackson, have been made great use of and it is notable that collaboration between the hospital service and the child welfare and school medical departments of the local authority is maintained at a very high level with a full interchange of necessary information. Dr. Stephenson, the Geriatric Physician, has lived up to the expectation locally and has done a good deal to achieve a better arrangement and turn-over in the available geriatric accommodation. He is indeed very closely in collaboration with the welfare services in arranging for the proper disposition of the aged and infirm. For many of the local authority members it will be gratifying to know that there has been provided some geriatric accommodation in Dunston Hill Hospital which has been made available for the residents of the county borough.

A. HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES

(Part II of the National Health Service Act)

In the accompanying table I have been able to list the numbers of Gateshead patients admitted to hospital in 1964. The figures are supplied through the courtesy of the officers of the various hospital management committees.

<i>Hospital</i>	<i>Gateshead admissions during 1964</i>	<i>Hospital Management Committee</i>
Bensham General Hospital	2,971	Gateshead and District
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	4,075	do.
Wickham and District		
War Memorial Hospital	345	do.
Gateshead Children's Hospital ..	577	do.

<i>Hospital</i>		<i>Gateshead admissions during 1964</i>	<i>Hospital Management Committee</i>
Whinney House Geriatric Unit	..	24	do.
Normans Riding Hospital	..	329	do.
Dunston Hill Hospital	..	1,004*	do.
Clinics: Chest, Gateshead	..		
Chest, Whickham	..		
Newcastle General Hospital	..	563	Newcastle upon Tyne
Hospital for Sick Children (Fleming Memorial)	..	159	do.
Eye Hospital	..	31	do.
W. J. Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital	..	4	do.
Walker Gate Hospital	..	121	do.
Royal Victoria Infirmary	..	783	Newcastle upon Tyne United Hospital Board of Governors
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital	..	83	do.
Babies' Hospital	..	28	do.
<i>Mental Hospitals and Institutions</i>			
St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington	..	335	St. Mary's
Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital	..	16	Prudhoe and Monkton
<i>Other Hospitals</i>			
Hexham General Hospital	..	19	Hexham and District
Wooley Sanatorium	..	13	do.
Shotley Bridge	..	115	North West Durham
Stannington Children's Sanatorium		7	Wansbeck

* Includes 13 war pensioners

Throughout the figures it would appear worth while to stress that the hospitals in the Gateshead Hospital Management Group show an increasing usage by people from Gateshead, while at the same time the trend is towards a stabilisation of the use made of the Royal Victoria Infirmary and the non-teaching hospitals outside the Gateshead area. This is to some extent accounted for by the situation of the special surgical units of the region in the Newcastle General and Shotley Bridge Hospitals. So far as midwifery is concerned, it would appear that both the Borough and the adjoining areas are making increasing use of the available beds, no doubt a reflection of a fairly high birth rate which is common in the Tyneside and Wearside areas. This is shown in the following table:—

		<i>Queen Elizabeth Hospital</i>			<i>Bensham General Hospital</i>			<i>Total</i>		
		<i>Del.</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>	<i>Del.</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>	<i>Del.</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>
Gateshead Borough	..	710	704	16	425	420	13	1,135	1,124	29
Other areas	..	528	520	11	226	218	8	754	738	19
		1,238	1,224	27	651	638	21	1,889	1,862	48

There may be small variations between these figures supplied by the hospital officers and those provided elsewhere by the health department staff and this is due to the postal addresses of some areas adjoining Gateshead. It is interesting to note that 1191 of the 2010 total births credited to Gateshead in 1964 took place in hospital, *i.e.* 59 per cent.

of all births. This figure is considerably below the usually accepted figure of 70 per cent.

Bacteriology

The public health laboratory service is invaluable in helping to elucidate the bacteriology and virology of the respective local infectious illnesses. There is, in fact, a very close association between the isolation wards of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the public health laboratory in respect of virus identifications. The area is also greatly indebted to the laboratory for the speed with which they help to unravel the intestinal infections which may have a relationship to food hygiene.

The following lists the bacteriology done in 1964:—

(a) <i>Prevention and Treatment of Diseases:</i>				
Throat swabs for organisms	..	..	30	
Nasal swabs	..	..	4	
Sputa for tubercle bacilli	..	..	180	
Faeces for organisms	..	..	892	
Urine for organisms	..	..	123	
Eye smears for gonococci	..	..	9	
Miscellaneous	..	..	7	
			<hr/>	1,245
(b) <i>Milk</i>				
Pasteurised Milk	..	..	87	
Sterilised Milk	..	..	6	
Untreated	..	..	36	
			<hr/>	129
(c) <i>Water Supply</i>	..	..		17
(d) <i>Food Samples</i>	..	..		13
(e) <i>Control of Venereal Disease</i>				
(1) Blood Wassermann Tests				
(i) Practitioners	..	..	54	
(ii) Ante-natal clinics	..	..	2,322	
			<hr/>	2,376
				<hr/>
				3,780
				<hr/>

Blood Transfusion Service

As in former years, the Regional Blood Transfusion Service based on the special laboratory unit at Newcastle General Hospital continues to serve the area in respect of blood grouping and rhesus testing. An effort was made, as a result of meetings with the practitioners, to achieve the triple testing of the blood samples for the Wassermann and other specific reactions as well as the blood grouping, but it was not possible to get this done because of the fear that mistakes might occur in the handling of the single specimen, particularly in the labelling. In these circumstances doctors still continue to send two separate samples, one for blood investigation and the other for serological testing.

B. LOCAL AUTHORITY HEALTH SERVICES

(Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946)

1. General Remarks

A further step forward was taken during 1964 in fulfilling decisions already made to bring the training centre facilities for subnormals up

to date, and to continue with the programme of district clinics gradually, providing convenient headquarters for the health visiting staff of an area combined with facilities for the immunisation and examination of children and the conduct of child welfare clinics and the educational activities associated with child welfare.

So far as the training centre provision is concerned, the proposal to build a centre suitable for adult girls and young children and a separate adult male centre has been moulded so as to provide a children's training centre in the High Fell region of the town by up-to-date premises which will probably cost in the region of £50,000. At the same time, the policy of seeking for a suitable site for the adult male training centre near or within the Team Valley Trading Estate continues, but at the end of the year the project had been modified by the attitude of the Ministry of Health to the provision of a training centre for adults of both sexes with the emphasis on the productive work and the rehabilitation in industry of the trainees.

During the year the Lobley Hill Clinic, part of a building shared jointly with the library service, had been opened by the Mayor and so provided very excellent district premises, the use of which it is hoped will gradually be expanded to the provision of mothers' clubs, meals for the aged and other suitable activities in the field of medical social welfare. Two similar clinics are being built in 1965, one in Northumberland Street for the Teams Area, replacing the Victoria Road Mission Hall, and one in the Rawling Road/Whitehall Road Area, replacing St. Cuthbert's Church Hall. Both of these will in turn form a local centre for the health activities of the department in relation to children of all ages and possibly also in relation to the social and nursing care of the elderly members of the community. Other areas to be catered for in the same way include the Sunderland Road Area, much of which is scheduled for clearance, and in redevelopment will need the provision of clinic facilities. Similar housing developments in the southern extremities of the Borough will entail the provision of some premises in the vicinity of Chowdene Bank.

It appears, too, that the growing population in the Wrekenton Area will require a doubling of the home nursing facilities, but this is really a transfer of duty from the voluntary Institute of District Nursing in Coatsworth Road to municipal auspices. Wherever clinic facilities are provided opportunity is being taken, as far as possible, to locate one or more of the midwifery or nursing staff in houses adjacent to the premises.

The work of the Marie Curie Foundation has proceeded during the year in admirable fashion as the scheme became known. This service to provide for night attendance on patients gravely ill with malignant disease has been supervised entirely by the Matron of the Gateshead District Nursing Association, to whom we are grateful.

The greatest need today in the field of local authority health service is to extend the provision for chiropody treatment to cover all the aged of the pensioner class who are no longer able to see to the care of their own feet. The mere provision of the service has produced an overwhelming

demand, and consideration may have to be given to the provision of chiropody for patients unable to leave their homes as well as extended facilities for the ambulatory aged.

2. Clinics and Welfare Facilities (as at 31st December, 1964)

- (1) *Greenesfield House and Health Centre:*

School Clinic	.. ..	9 a.m. - 9.30 a.m. daily. 4 p.m. daily.
Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.
Ante- and Post-natal Clinic	.. ..	1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Wednesday.
Dental Clinic	.. ..	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily (by appointment).
Orthopaedic Clinic	.. ..	Fortnightly by appointment—Wednesday (Orthopaedic treatment daily by appoint- ment).
Ophthalmic Clinic	.. ..	By appointment.
Artificial Sunlight Treatment	.. ..	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.30 a.m. (mixed sessions). Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays 4 p.m. (special sessions).
Immunisation Clinic	.. ..	Mondays and Wednesdays, weekly (2 p.m. - 4 p.m. — pre-school children).
- (2) *Chest X-Ray Unit:*

Old Dispensary Building		
Greenesfield House	.. ..	Afternoon 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Evening 5.30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Monday and Thursday.
- (3) *Gateshead District Nurses' Home:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Tuesday and Wednesday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisations and vaccinations		Tuesday and Wednesday.
Ante-natal and post-natal clinics		Thursday 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (4) *St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Rawling Road:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Thursday, 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. (medical session).
Immunisation and vaccination	.. ..	Thursday, 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (5) *Low Fell Presbyterian Church Hall:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Wednesday (medical session).
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Wednesday, 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (6) *Moore Street Methodist Church Hall:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Monday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. (medical session).
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Monday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (7) *Wrekenton Health Centre, Springwell Road:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Monday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Monday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (8) *Victoria Road Methodist Church Hall:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Friday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Friday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (9) *Carr Hill Health Centre:*

Minor Ailments Clinic	.. ..	9 a.m. - 10 a.m. daily.
Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Tuesday and Thursday, 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Tuesday and Thursday weekly.
- (10) *Lobley Hill District Clinic*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Thursday, 1.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Thursday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (11) *Old Fold Centre, Old Fold Road:*

Child Welfare Centre	.. ..	Friday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	.. ..	Weekly, Friday 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

3. Local Hospitals serving the area (Out-patient consultations)

Queen Elizabeth Hospital:

Medical

Dr. A. R. Horler	Tuesday a.m., Friday a.m.
Dr. J. R. Horler	Friday p.m.
Dr. T. Parkin	Monday p.m., Wednesday p.m.
Dr. Hingorani	Tuesday p.m.
Dr. D. W. Ashby	Thursday p.m.

Surgical appliances Monday p.m., Wednesday a.m.

Psychiatry Thursday p.m.

Diabetic clinic Monday a.m.

Medical follow-up Saturday a.m.

Surgical

Mr. J. Henderson	Monday a.m., Thursday a.m., Friday a.m.
Mr. A. E. Bremner (Orthopaedic Surgeon) ..	Monday p.m., Wednesday a.m.
Mr. Berry	Tuesday p.m.
Mr. T. H. Tweedy	Wednesday a.m., and p.m.
Mr. Moselhi	Wednesday a.m.
Mr. Way	Thursday a.m.
(Dr. Locke 1st in month)	

Fracture clinic Tuesday a.m.

Surgical appliances Tuesday p.m., Friday p.m.

Bensham General Hospital:

Dr. Hingorani	Monday a.m., Thursday p.m.
Dr. Ashby	Monday p.m., Friday p.m.
Dr. J. R. Horler	Tuesday a.m.
Dr. Stephenson	Wednesday a.m.
Mr. B. V. McEvedy	Friday a.m.

Gynaecology

Mr. D. Smith Thursday a.m.

P.A. Clinic Wednesday a.m. (1st in month)

Psychiatry Tuesday p.m.

Gateshead Children's Hospital:

Ante-natal clinics Tuesday a.m., Wednesday a.m. & p.m.
Thursday a.m.

Post natal clinics Monday p.m.

Gynaecology Tuesday p.m., Thursday p.m.

Ear, Nose and Throat

Mr. R. G. Chaytor Wednesday a.m.

Paediatrics

Dr. R. H. Jackson Monday a.m., Thursday p.m.

Follow-up Tuesday p.m.

Premature Infant Clinic Wednesday a.m.

Children's Chest Clinic Friday p.m.

Dermatology

Dr. T. Parkin Tuesday a.m., Wednesday p.m.

*Whickham Cottage Hospital:**Orthopaedic*

Mr. A. E. Bremner Wednesday a.m., (alt. weeks)

Dunston Hill Hospital:

Mr. T. H. Tweedy Friday a.m.

Dr. J. R. Horler Wednesday p.m.

Dr. Rosenstein Monday a.m. and p.m. Wednesday a.m. and p.m., Friday a.m. Saturday a.m.

Dr. Turner Monday a.m. and p.m. Tuesday a.m. and p.m., Wednesday a.m. and p.m. Thursday a.m. and p.m. Friday a.m.

Mr. Moselhi Monday p.m.

Dr. Hingorani Wednesday a.m., and Thursday a.m.

Dr. Stephenson Tuesday a.m., Thursday p.m.

Mr. Todd Tuesday p.m. (alt. weeks)

4. Maternity and Child Welfare

(Report by Dr. Jean M. Bainbridge)

(a) Births

There were 1,964 live births registered during 1964. Of the live births, 1,003 were male and 961 females. This represents a birth rate of 19.3 per thousand of population, which is a slight decrease on last year. The national rate was 18.4 per thousand of population. 114 births (60 males and 54 females), or 5.8 per cent. of total live births were illegitimate. This shows an increase of 0.32 per cent. from 1963.

<i>Attended by</i>	<i>No. of live births</i>	<i>No. of stillbirths</i>
Doctors	163	—
Midwives	648	8
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital—in wards ..	59	3
Bensham Hospital ..	424	14
Queen Elizabeth Hospital ..	619	17
Craigielea Nursing Home ..	—	—
Other Nursing Homes and Hospitals	51	4
	<u>1,964</u>	<u>46</u>

In all the doctors' cases a registered midwife was in attendance as a maternity nurse.

Stillbirths

There were 46 stillbirths during the year. Of these 28 were males and 18 were females, making a stillbirth rate of 22.8 per 1,000 births. This is an increase of 13 stillbirths over the 1963 figure, and an increase in the stillbirth rate of 6.6. per 1,000 births. It is interesting to note that of the 46 stillbirths, 15 cases were anencephalics and one case was a hydrocephalic.

35 of the stillbirths were among the premature babies.

Congenital Malformations

The Ministry of Health scheme for the notification of congenital defects by doctors and midwives in attendance on childbirth resulted in the receipt of 57 notifications, of which 17 referred to the children of mothers from outside the area and were therefore transferred to the Medical Officer of Health of the area concerned. The 40 notifications relating to Gateshead children born within the Borough increased to 44 by the inward transfer of 4 children with defects born outside the Borough. An analysis of the kind of defects notified show that 17 referred to defects of the central nervous system, 14 of which were stillborn and 3 neonatal deaths, 2 were defects of the special senses, one harelip and cleft palate, 4 were defects of the respiratory system, of which one died shortly after birth, 6 were urogenital defects, principally hypospadias, 7 were defects of the limbs, 4 were mongols, of whom one died, one was an adrenal hypoplasia with talipes and there were 2 others with multiple defects, both of whom died shortly after birth.

Infantile Mortality

There were 42 deaths among infants under the age of one year giving an infantile mortality rate of 21.3. This is a decrease of 0.6 on last year's rate. 27 infants under the age of one month died, making a rate of 13.7, a decrease of 2.26 on 1963's rate. 23 of these died during the first week, and of these 12 died during the first 24 hours.

The perinatal mortality rate, that is the combined stillbirths and children dying in the first week, was 34.3 per 1,000 live births, an increase of 5.36 on last year's rate.

The number of children who died over one month and below the age of one year was 15. This was an increase of 3 on 1963. Of these, 3 died from pneumonia, 4 from broncho-pneumonia, 1 from bronchitis, and 1 from other diseases of the respiratory system. One died from gastro-enteritis, 4 from congenital malformations and 1 from asphyxia (Miss adventure).

Of the 27 children who died under one month, 12 died from prematurity, 6 from congenital malformations, 2 from intracranial haemorrhage, 2 from respiratory failure, 1 from ulcer of stomach and duodenum, 1 from atelectasis, 1 from diaphragmatic hernia, 1 from hyaline membrane disease and 1 from gastro-enteritis.

Once again prematurity is the main cause of death among young children. Of the 27 infants who died under one month, 12 died from prematurity.

This year 9.3 per cent of the babies were breast-fed at 4 months old. The continued drop in the percentage of children who are breast-fed at 4 months may in part be accounted for by the tendency to wean children much earlier.

Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age

Cause of death	Total deaths under										Total deaths under 1 year		
	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4 weeks	1-3 m'ths	3-6 m'ths	6-9 m'ths	9-12 m'ths		M.	F.	T.
Causes:													
Unrecorded ..	23	1	2	1	27	5	5	1	4	24	18	42	
Identified ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	2	3	
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	2	4	
Cis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Diseases of													
Respiratory													
..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Stomach													
Duodenum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Enteritis ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	
Intestinal													
Formations	3	1	2	—	6	1	2	—	1	5	5	10	
Ventriculitis ..	12	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	8	4	12	
Intestinal													
Hæmorrhage ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	
Ventriculitis													
..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	
Cis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Septicæmic													
..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Peritoneal													
Membrane													
..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Adventitious (venture)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	
	23	1	2	1	27	5	5	1	4	24	18	42	

c) Child Welfare Clinics

Centre				No. of sessions	First visits of children 0-1 years	Revisits of children 0-1 years	First visits of children 1-5 years	Revisits of children 1-5 years
Greensfield ..	..	..	100	247	2,213	163	1,427	
Wensham ..	..	..	51	122	1,467	143	1,149	
Moore Street ..	..	..	48	165	1,920	111	848	
Wow Fell ..	..	..	52	172	2,164	105	1,137	
Victoria Road ..	..	..	50	138	1,424	159	977	
Wrekenton ..	..	..	48	138	1,470	104	1,172	
Wobley Hill ..	..	..	50	89	1,108	55	699	
Warr Hill ..	..	..	98	198	1,825	113	1,030	
Wold Fold ..	..	..	50	70	696	120	451	
W.N.A. ..	..	..	100	342	4,144	287	1,774	
			647	1,681	18,431	1,360	10,664	

<i>Centres</i>	<i>No. of attendances</i>	<i>Average No. of consulta- tions per session</i>	<i>Infant examinations by medical officer</i>	<i>Average attendance at Doctor's session</i>
Greenesfield	3,734	37.34	1,642	16.42
Bensham	2,736	51.68	815	15.98
Moore Street	2,862	59.62	906	18.87
Low Fell	3,386	65.01	1,230	23.65
Victoria Road	2,520	50.4	984	19.68
Wrekenton	2,729	56.89	1,250	26.0
Lobley Hill	1,854	37.08	558	11.16
Carr Hill	2,923	29.82	1,341	13.68
Old Fold	1,259	25.18	405	8.1
D.N.A.	6,143	61.43	1,995	19.95
	30,146	47.445	11,126	17.349

Treatment

During the year 172 children were referred to the minor ailments clinic and made 384 attendances.

The children were treated for the following conditions:—

Impetigo
Scabies
Warts
Burns
Miscellaneous sores
Minor injuries
Cerumen
Styes
Eczema and dermatitis
Blepharitis
Conjunctivitis
Otitis media
Septic sores
Granuloma of umbilicus
Thrush

157 children were referred to the refraction clinic. The following are the particulars:—

No. of appointments made	.. ..	157
No. of appointments kept	.. ..	133
No. for whom spectacles were prescribed		87

(d) Nursery Schools

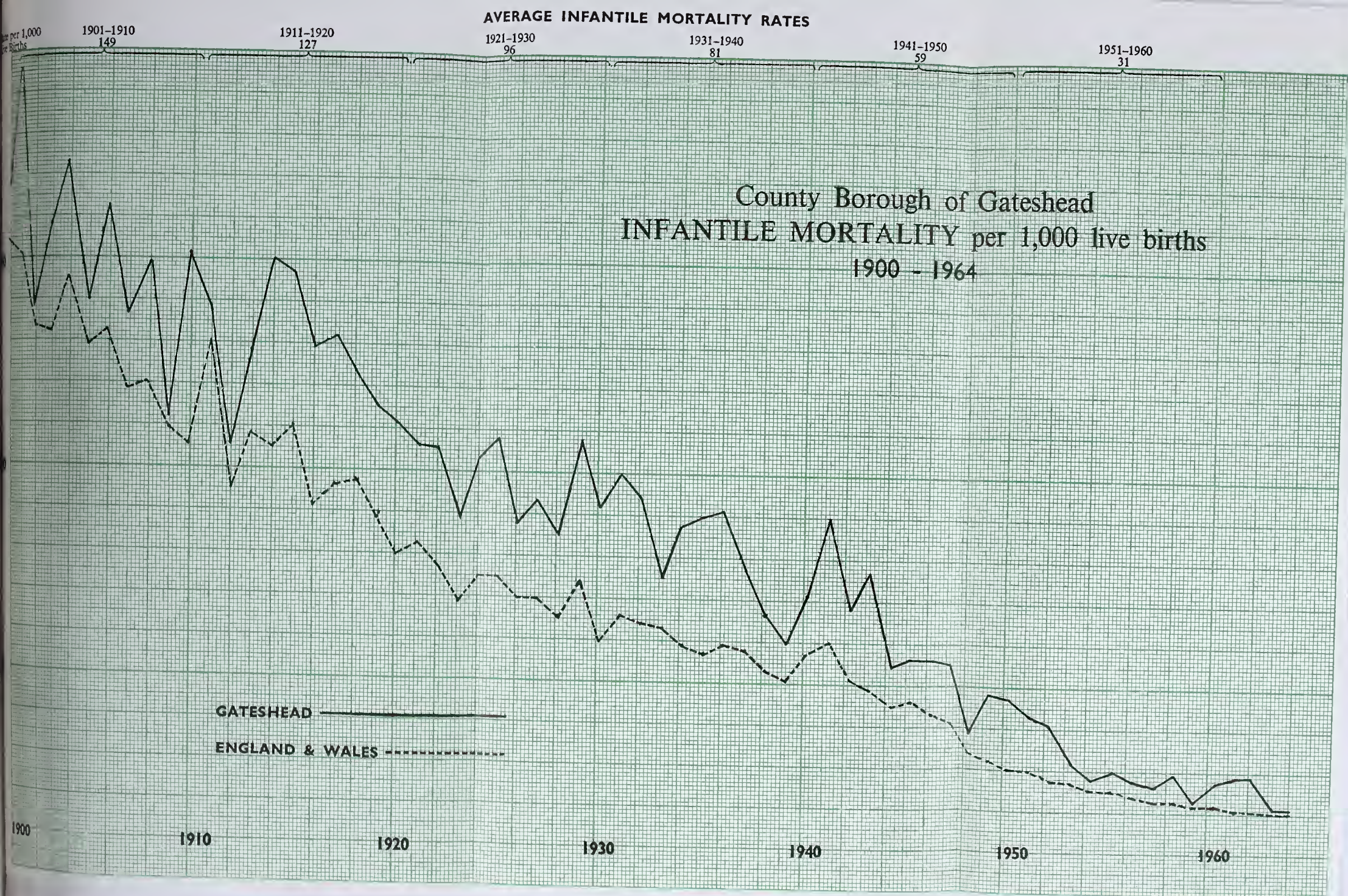
Prior Street and Brighton Avenue Nursery Classes continued to care for about 60 children between the ages of 3—5 years.

Bensham Nursery School continued to care for 40 children.

Priority of admission was given to children whose mothers were suffering from ill-health. A health visitor makes weekly visits to treat minor ailments and one of the school medical officers makes regular visits to examine the children medically.

(e) Day Nursery, Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Day Nursery has places for 120 children aged between a few weeks old and 5 years. It is open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. on 5 days a week.



During 1964 the average weekly attendance was 64.2. The nursery is primarily for children whose mothers have to work either because they are widowed, divorced or separated from their husbands, or because they are unmarried mothers. If there are vacancies after these necessitous cases are accommodated then the children of the other working mothers are allowed into the nursery. They, however, have to pay £2 10s. 0d. per week per child, but necessitous cases, depending on their income, pay on a sliding scale down to a minimum of 10/-d. per week.

In addition the Day Nursery is used to alleviate difficulties at home. During the year we had children whose mothers were ill in hospital, children from problem families and we continued to have the child of blind parents in the nursery.

A medical officer attends the nursery regularly to examine the children medically. During the year there were 32 cases of measles, 2 cases of German Measles, 2 cases of chickenpox, 1 case of scarlet fever, 1 case of whooping cough and 36 cases of dysentery.

Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulations Act, 1948

The Beth Midrash Lemoroth Nursery for Jewish children has continued throughout the year at 61 Rectory Road. It is open from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. The nursery has places for 20 children. When visited the children were happy and well.

The nursery class at Sheriff Mount South, Sheriff Hill, continued throughout the year. This caters for 15 children. It is open from 9 a.m. until 12 noon daily five days a week. When this nursery class was visited all the children were happy and well.

The nursery class in a new nursery in the Congregational Church on the Calderwood Estate continued throughout the year. This caters for 20 children. It is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily during the normal school year. When the class was visited all the children were well and happy.

(f) Milk and other Foods sold during 1964

This department continues to work smoothly. Ladies from the Women's Voluntary Services gave valuable assistance at Greenesfield Health Centre on Friday afternoons.

During the year the following amounts of National Dried Milk and Vitamin Foods were supplied:—

46,743 tins of National Dried Milk
1,545 bottles of Cod Liver Oil
1,107 Vitamin tablets
17,959 bottles of Orange Juice

£3 17s. 0d. was taken in stamps and £4,701 18s. 1d. in cash for National Dried Milk. 4,693 tins were issued free.

1,715 tins Dried Milk were sold at 4/-d. per tin to mothers who wished to purchase more than the Ministry allowed at the lower price. The total amount taken for the sale of National Dried Milk was £5,048 15s. 0d.

£57 8s. 0d. was taken in cash for Cod Liver Oil and 397 bottles were issued free. £25 13s. 6d. was taken in cash for vitamin tablets and 80 packets were issued free. £1,203 10s. 6d. was taken in cash for Orange Juice and 1,912 bottles were issued free.

In addition, 346 tins of National Dried Milk, 72 bottles of Cod Liver Oil and 72 bottles of Orange Juice were issued to hospitals and day nurseries.

The following amounts of dried milk and other foods were sold during 1964:— 21,340 packets of dried milk, 4,587 packets of cereal, 3,198 small bottles of Adexolin, 582 large bottles of Adexolin, 22 packets of Patent Barley, 5,422 bottles of Blackcurrant Juice, 1,251 Cow and Gate Puddings, 6,110 packets of Farley's Rusks, 83 packets of Ovaltine Rusks, 950 tins of Horlicks, 245 jars of Malt and Cod Liver Oil, 310 tins of Marmite, 376 bottles of Minadex, 2,813 tins of Ovaltine, 594 packets of Robsoup, 511 packets of Robsweet, 9,318 bottles of Rosehip Syrup, 33 packets of Supavites, 782 cartons of Virol, 468 bottles of Vitavel.

In addition, 390 packets of Dried Milk were sold to hospitals.

Receipts amounted to £6,834 14s. 11d., against a cost of £6,152 17s. 7½d.

(g) *Care of Premature Infants*

During the year, 173 premature infants were born to Gateshead mothers. 146 were born alive. The particulars of these were as follows:—

<i>Place of birth</i>	<i>No. of live births</i>	<i>Deaths under 24 hours</i>	<i>Deaths under 28 days</i>	<i>Alive</i>
At home	39	1	1	37
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	75	9	2	64
Bensham General Hospital	25	—	—	25
Other Hospitals	7	—	—	7
<i>Totals</i>	146	10	3	133

Of the 44 premature infants who were born at home, 39 were born alive and 5 were stillborn. The following are the particulars of those who were born alive:—

<i>Weight at birth</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Died under 24 hours</i>	<i>Died under 28 days</i>	<i>Alive</i>	<i>Transferred to hospital</i>	
					<i>Died</i>	<i>Alive</i>
Less than 2 lbs. 3 ozs.	1	1	—	—	—	—
Over 2 lbs. 3 ozs. and including 3 lbs. 4 ozs.	2	—	—	1	—	1
Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs and including 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	6	—	—	3	1	2
Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. and including 4 lbs. 15 ozs.	6	—	—	5	—	1
Over 4 lbs. 15 ozs. and including 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	24	—	—	23	—	1
<i>Totals</i>	39	1	—	32	1	5

During the whole of 1964, all premature infants were either cared for in hospital or by the midwives who delivered them. 651 visits were made in connection with premature babies born and nursed on the district.

1,803 visits were made by midwives in connection with the continued supervision of infants discharged before the tenth day from hospital.

It will be noticed that there was a further increase in the number of visits made by the midwives in connection with the continued supervision of mothers and babies discharged from hospital before the 10th day. In 1962 there were 201 visits made, in 1963 it had risen to 1,533 and in 1964 to 1,803. It had now become evident that in order to accommodate more mothers in the same number of beds they must be discharged under ten days, and increasingly many mothers are being discharged at the end of 48 hours. This, of course, means that the hospitals are, in fact, handling more patients in the same number of beds, and our district midwives are nursing a much greater number of patients. Such an arrangement requires very close co-operation between both branches of the service, and I would like to thank everyone for their continued collaboration. In connection with this service we have continued to employ retired midwives and it may be that if this trend continues we may have to employ further part-time midwives.

Cots, blankets, hot water bottles, etc., were lent to the parents on 3 occasions.

Follow-up clinic for Premature Babies

During the year a follow-up clinic for premature babies was continued. This group of children are at risk and some require special attention. In addition, many premature infants become anaemic and thus become more prone to infections. The clinic operates by a medical officer seeing the children at the Children's Hospital, Dryden Road, Gateshead. Thus, the medical officer has access to the hospital records and the facilities of the laboratory enable an accurate assessment of the babies' haemoglobin. In addition, it has established a most valuable link between the local authority and the hospital staff, and I would like to thank Dr. Hugh Jackson and his staff for their valuable help and co-operation.

(h) Care of Illegitimate Children

There were 114 illegitimate live births in the Borough in 1964, 60 males and 54 females.

The following is a summary of the particulars of these:—

Total No. of children	Living with mother or near relative	Child adopt- ed	Left the district or not traced	Board- ed out	In resi- dential nurs- ery	Died	Children living with mother or near relative	
							Children well cared for in good home	Home conditions poor but child thriving
114	87	8	16	1	1	1	80	7

The death of the child mentioned in the table was due to gross prematurity.

St. Faith's, the only mother and baby home situated within the Borough continued to operate throughout the year. Most of the girls who were received into it came from outside the Borough, but it was used to accommodate some of our girls. The rest of the unmarried mothers were accommodated outside the Borough. There is a close link between the staff of St. Faith's and the health department, and I would like to thank them for their continued co-operation.

In Gateshead, a large proportion of the illegitimate children remain at home, and are looked after by their mothers or relatives.

(i) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*

There were no cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during 1964.

(j) *Ultra-Violet Ray Therapy*

8 cases attended the clinic for treatment and made 42 attendances. No old cases attended. The children were treated for the following conditions:—

Recurrent colds
Recurrent cough
Bow legs
Recurrent respiratory infection
Chilblains

(k) *Hospital Treatment for Ailing Children*

Such children belonging to the Borough are usually referred to the following hospitals:—

The Children's Hospital, Gateshead
The Children's Department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle.
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead.
The Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle

It is the custom of the hospitals to forward to the Health Department a copy of the discharge letter sent to the patient's own doctor.

(l) *Exceptional Children*

The following list of special cases among children under 5 years received extra attention from the health visitors, who see that treatment is obtained where necessary.

At the age of 2 years, the names of the children among these cases who are likely to require special educational facilities are passed on to the school medical service so that suitable arrangements can be made as early as possible.

Eye defects	..	..	..	74
Congenital defects	..	..	..	133
Orthopaedic cases	..	..	..	65
Deaf and dumb or deaf	..	..	..	6
Speech defects	..	..	..	7
Hare lip or cleft palate	..	..	..	12
Mentally retarded	..	..	..	41
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	84

The congenital defects comprised:—

Erb's palsy	1
Abnormality of larynx.. ..	1
Congenital heart disease	32
Hydrocele	3
Inguinal hernia	12
Hiatus hernia	7
Pyloric stenosis	5
Naevus	5
Hypospadias	13
Atelectasis	1
Fibrocystic disease of pancreas ..	3
Spina bifida	13
Cerebral palsy	11
Extra digits	—
Umbilical hernia	13
Undescended testicles	1
Hydrocephalus	2
Congenital absence of fibula	1
Nystagmus	1
Hirschprung's disease	1
Abnormalities of ear	2
Split uvulae	1
Cyst of left eye	1
Cyst on face	1
Pyloidal Sinus	2

Mentally retarded

Convulsions	8
Mongols.. .. .	12
Microcephalic	1
Backward	20

Orthopaedic cases

Deformity of large toe.. ..	1
Talipes	20
Scoliosis	1
Perthe's disease	1
Dislocated hip (congenital)	12
Paralysis following polio	1
Flat feet	4
Genu varum	8
Genu valgum	7
Hypophosphatasia	1
Traumatic postural amputation of middle finger	1
Incomplete development of frontal bone	2
Trigger thumb	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta	—
Webbed toes	1
Congenital abnormality in cervical spine	2
Achondroplasia	1
Bilateral stenosing tenosynovitis ..	1

Miscellaneous

Key-hole pupil	1
Psoriasis	1
Anaemia	2
Extopic bladder	2
Scalds of face	1

Miscellaneous

T.B. of lungs	1
Lipoma	1
Ectopic bladder and bowel	2
Sternomastoid tumour.. ..	6
Neuroblastoma	1
Coeliac disease	3
Salt losing syndrome	1
Abnormality of bowel	3
Hiatus hernia	2
Minor defects skeleton	15
Eczema	26
Torticollis	1
Von Recklinghausen's Disease ..	2
Cystic hygromata	1
Haematome of foreskin	1
Neurological defect	3
Acro-Cyanosis	1
Wheezy bronchitis	1
Nephritis	1
Collapse of lung	1
Ptosis of eye	2
Albino	1
Tumour on left eyelid	1

Midwifery Service*(a) Midwives*

During the period 1st February, 1964, to 31st January, 1965, 611 midwives notified their intention to practise midwifery in the Borough. They were distributed as follows :—

Municipal midwives	13
District Nurses' Home	12
Private	2
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	21
(includes 1 antenatal sister)	
Bensham Hospital	13

The following is a summary of the work of the Supervisor of Midwives, Mrs. M. Dobson:—

Routine visits to midwives	26
Special visits to midwives	31
Visits to stillbirths	36
Nursings and deliveries supervised ..	39
Visits to premature babies	150
Special visits	53
Unsuccessful visits	154
Routine interviews with midwives ..	630
Attendances at antenatal clinics ..	47
Visits to puerperal pyrexia	5
Visits to neonatal deaths	27

At the routine visits paid to the domiciliary midwives, inspections were made of their register of cases, temperature charts, antenatal records, bags and appliances.

During 1964, two midwives resigned and four commenced duty. This means that most of the year we were reasonably well staffed and at the end of 1964 we had 10 midwives and one supervisor on the municipal

staff and the District Nursing Association had no supervisor and seven midwives.

I would like to take the opportunity to record my appreciation of all the hard work the midwives have put in during the year.

The night rota continued to work satisfactorily, and once again I would like to thank the Ambulance Officer and his staff for their continued help with this and all other activities. After 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. all the maternity calls are sent to the ambulance station, and the control officer calls the midwife on 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th call as required.

(b) *Ante-natal Care*

Summary of Work at Clinics

The following is a summary of the attendances at the various clinics:

<i>Centre</i>	<i>No. of sessions</i>	<i>No. of 1st visits</i>	<i>No. of revisits</i>	<i>Total attendances</i>	<i>Average per session</i>
Greenesfield	52	182	42	2,273	4.3
District Nurses' Home	50	639	83	722	14.4

Blood was taken for routine Wassermann and Rhesus Test at the municipal clinic and at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Clinic. In all, 1,897 specimens were tested and there were no positive Wassermann cases.

During the year all the mothers were invited to have their chest x-rayed as a routine on their first visit to the ante-natal clinic.

(c) *Maternal Welfare*

We have to note that we have stated in the previous report that there was no maternal death in 1963. In fact, this is incorrect, a death did occur in 1963 due to an abortion and this death was not registered until 1964. No other deaths occurred in 1964.

(d) *Puerperal Pyrexia*

The following is an analysis of the cases notified under the Regulations:—

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>End Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Home	—	Cured	She developed abdominal pain on the 2nd day of puerperium and was given chemotherapy and pyelitis settled down in 24 hours.
2.	Hospital	—	Cured	She developed a temperature on the 4th day of the puerperium and was given three pints of blood for Anaemia and the temperature settled.

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>End Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
3.	Home	Yes	Cured	She developed a high temperature 5 days after delivery and was sent into hospital (?) Appendicitis. She was given penicillin and Streptomycin. Temperature appeared due to retained products of conception, and settled down.
4.	Hospital	—	Cured	She developed a temperature on 6th day of puerperium and was found to have Pyelitis and was transferred to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital where her temperature settled down six days later.
5.	Hospital	—	Cured	She was found to have a temperature while in labour due to acute follicular tonsillitis. Was admitted to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital and was treated with chemotherapy and temperature settled down.
6.	Hospital	—	Cured	Immediately after delivery she developed a temperature and was transferred to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital where she was found to have Pyelitis. She was given chemotherapy and responded to treatment.
7.	Hospital	—	Cured	This girl was suffering from severe Toxemia and had a Caesarean Section. On the 3rd day of puerperium she developed a cough and became breathless. She was diagnosed as Lobar-Pneumonia and given anti-biotics and gradually improved and was discharged.
8.	Hospital	—	Cured	On the 6th day of puerperium she developed a temperature which was found to be due to Pyelitis and was treated with chemotherapy to which she responded.
9.	Hospital	—	Cured	On the 2nd day of puerperium she developed a high temperature which settled down without any treatment on the following day. No cause for this temperature was found.
10.	Home	Yes	Cured	She developed thrombophlebitis of the superficial veins of her leg and was admitted to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital where she settled down.
11.	Home	Yes	Cured	On the 3rd day of puerperium had raised temperature and complained of abdominal pain. This settled down on treatment but re-appeared 6 days later. She was admitted to hospital and given 6 pints of blood and temperature was due to retained products of conception.
12.	Home	—	Cured	On the 5th day of puerperium she developed a temperature and was treated with chemotherapy and settled down quite satisfactorily and no cause for temperature found.

(e) *Emergency Cases*

In 2 cases where a doctor had not been previously engaged, medical aid was called by the midwife for the baby. This is an increase of one case on last year.

(f) *Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases*

The following is a summary of the Gateshead cases admitted to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital during the year:—

Live births	..	..	59
Still births	..	..	3

Other hospitals outside the town:—

Live births	..	..	51
Still births	..	..	3

There were 438 births, including 14 stillbirths, to Gateshead mothers in the Bensham General Hospital, and 636 births, including 17 stillbirths in the maternity unit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

(g) *Consultant Aid for Emergency Cases*

During 1964, the emergency team provided by the Hospital Boards was called out on 12 occasions. This is an increase of 1 emergency on 1963. This service plays a very great part in dealing with severe emergencies which arise at home, where it would be dangerous to move the patient to hospital.

The incubator was used in five cases, 3 being premature babies. In the other two cases the incubator was used because of the condition of the baby.

(h) *Midwifery Outfits*

Midwifery outfits containing clothing and bed-linen necessary for both mother and infant are available at the ante-natal clinic. No outfits were borrowed during the year.

(i) *Municipal Midwifery (Midwives' Act, 1936)*

Midwife	No. of cases		No. of morning visits	No. of evening visits	Ante-natal visits
	Attended as midwife	Attended as mat. nurse			
1	19	4	246	72	291
2	31*	5	501	131	487
3	42	17	550	138	339
4	21	4	154	47	119
5	26	6	452	152	629
6	45*	6	476	110	352
7	—	—	19	5	9
8	35†	10	475	107	255
9	19	1	193	66	122
10	25*	17	534	135	576
11	10	4	146	45	106
12	37*†	2	460	112	399
13	—	—	36	4	—
14	27†	6	438	151	384

*Four sets of twins

† Three unbooked emergencies

Gas and air analgesia was administered to 1 mother by a municipal midwife, and to one mother by the District Nurse midwives.

Trilene was administered to 268 mothers by the municipal midwives and to 237 mothers by the district nurse midwives.

Pethilorfan was administered to 327 mothers by the municipal midwives and to 233 mothers by the district nurse midwives.

The district nurse midwives are not booked individually, but take the cases in turn. The following is a summary of the work done by them.

<i>No. of cases</i>		<i>No. of morning visits</i>	<i>No. of evening visits</i>	<i>Ante-natal visits</i>	<i>Post-natal visits</i>
<i>Attended as midwife</i>	<i>Attended as mat. nurse</i>				
311*	81	4,884	1,324	5,351	708

*Four sets of twins

The following is a synopsis of the above cases:—

	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Live births</i>	<i>Still births</i>	<i>Mis-carriages</i>	<i>Sent to hospital</i>	<i>Maternal deaths</i>
Municipal midwives ..	419*	419	4	1	60	—
District Nurse midwives ..	392*	392	4	1	35	—
<i>Totals</i> ..	811	811	8	2	95	—

* Four sets of twins

There were 5 cases of puerperal pyrexia among the above.

(j) *Post-Natal Clinic*

The clinic is held at the Greenesfield Health Centre, in conjunction with the ante-natal clinic on Wednesday afternoons, and 3 mothers attended during the year.

District Nursing Association (Post-natal Clinic)

A post-natal clinic is also held at the District Nurses' Home in conjunction with the ante-natal clinic on Thursday afternoons. During the year 3 mothers attended.

Relaxation Classes

We continued the relaxation classes for expectant mothers on Wednesday afternoons at Greenesfield Clinic. These cater for mothers whose babies are going to be born at home. The mothers whose babies are going to be born in hospital attend the hospital relaxation clinic.

The class is conducted by the physiotherapist and the midwives give talks to the mothers on the various aspects of pregnancy and mothercraft. These classes seem to be very much enjoyed by the mothers. During the year 273 mothers attended the Relaxation and Mothercraft classes.

5. Work of Health Visitors during 1964

The establishment of health visitors, which is for one superintendent, 2 senior and 24 district health visitors, began the year with 9 district health visitors short, but with the promise of 4 student health visitors to qualify in 1964. Four of the five health visitors who began their studies in 1963 qualified in 1964 and brought the number of district health visitors to 19. We were successful in obtaining the services of a qualified health visitor from another area, but this was offset by the resignation of one of our own health visitors, so that at the end of the year the district health visitors numbered 18, making a full establishment of 21 as against 27. To meet the deficiency, four more student were accepted in 1964 and it is hoped that they will be available for service in 1965.

Great changes are occurring in the training and disposition of the health visitors within the National Health Service arrangements. General practitioners are now actively demanding the association of health visitors with them in their clinical care of the patients, in much the same way as the district nurses give attention to their patients in their own home. In Gateshead, it does not seem possible for the many practices to be covered by the location of definite health visitors to them as the areas from which they practise overlap with those of rival practices. In these circumstances, it would seem that the policy which has been followed of spreading the health visitors into the new district clinics and health centres which are already opened or projected, that is eight places altogether, will afford a suitable meeting place for the practitioners who desire the assistance of the health visitors to call at a time which will be fixed, when they could have a friendly talk with health visitors of the area regarding any matters of joint concern. A tentative disposition of the 26 health visiting staff would approximate to the following:—

Greenesfield Health Centre	..	..	4
Carr Hill Health Centre	..	..	3
Wrekenton Health Centre	..	..	3
Lobley Hill Clinic	..	..	2
District Nurses' Hostel,			
Coatsworth Road	..	..	2
Rawling Road Clinic	..	..	3
Northumberland Street Clinic	..		3
Projected Clinic for Sunderland			
Road Area..	..	..	3
Projected Clinic for Low Fell area	..		3

This arrangement would have to be varied in accordance with the movement of population as a result of the active slum clearance and rehousing activities under way in the Borough.

Another arrangement that would facilitate this co-operation between practitioners and health visitors would be a greater use of the district clinics for surgery purposes by the general practitioners, particularly

in districts which are remote from their main consulting rooms. Such an arrangement does exist in the case of two firms who use the Wrekenton Health Centre for their consulting purposes. Arrangements like this, of course, depend on the number of patients who are on the list of the doctors concerned.

The very best of relations continue between the hospital consultants and especially the paediatrician, and the medical and health visiting services, particularly in the care and education of handicapped children. Throughout the year there have been regular monthly meetings at which the chest physicians meet the district health visitors in the chest clinic to discuss difficulties and problems connected with the after-care of notified patients, the follow-up of contacts, the housing and other social difficulties of the patients.

For the purposes of convenience it has been arranged that the health visitors would exercise the domiciliary care over subnormal children of school age and under, as these are more associated with the child welfare and school medical services of the local authority than with the hospital services.

The work of the health visitors in 1964 is analysed in the figures below:—

Health Visiting of Young Children

Infants

Born at full term	1,818	Breast fed at	
Prematurely ..	146	four months	9.3%

<i>Cases visited by health visitors</i>	<i>First visit</i>	<i>Revisits</i>
Children born in 1964 ..	1,952	7,969
Children born in 1963 ..	1,436	4,134
Children born in 1962 ..	5,547	12,603

8,935	24,706
-------	--------

	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
Persons aged 65 or over	238	411
Number visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital	20	20
Number of mentally subnormal persons	16	215
Persons, excluding maternity cases, discharged from hospital (other than mental hospitals) ..	32	32
Persons discharged from hospital visited at the request of a general practitioner or hospital ..	32	32
Number of tuberculous households visited	342	664
Number of households visited on account of other infectious diseases	784	784
Number of antenatal cases ..	479	762
Ineffective visits amounted to ..	—	4,255

The total number of visits by health visitors during the year was 40,796.

6. Home Nursing

As explained in previous reports, the home nursing of sick people in Gateshead is almost entirely performed by the Gateshead District Nursing Association, which is closely affiliated with the Queen's Institute for District Nursing. With this body the Council collaborates in providing a training school for Queen's Nursing. The Association, however, is not asked to nurse the people of the Wrekenton suburb which, due to its growth and development, is now requiring the services of a whole-time nurse and some help from a second nurse resident in the district. In the ultimate development of this area, two full-time nurses will be required for the Wrekenton suburb. It is possible that these two nurses will be accommodated in the houses provided by the Council adjacent to the Wrekenton Health Centre, where there is already a resident midwife. Although the Wrekenton nurses are in a sense detached from the administrative control of the Gateshead District Nursing Association, they are both Queen's trained and they work in close co-operation with the Matron of the Gateshead District Nursing Association, and look to her for any replacements in times of emergency such as illness of the nurses.

The District Nursing Association is equipped with an establishment of one superintendent or matron, two assistant supervisors, 6 midwives (plus 3 student midwives from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Training School), 17 whole-time female Queen's Nurses, 4 whole-time male Queen's Nurses, 5 student district nurses and one state enrolled assistant nurse. It has been difficult to keep up this establishment and recourse has had to be made to part-time nurses, together with much use of the services of the student nurses under training. At the end of 1964 the staff employed was as follows:— 1 superintendent, 2 assistant superintendents, 7 midwives, 1 pupil midwife, 10 general nurses, 5 male nurses, 3 student nurses, 2 part-time nurses and 2 state enrolled assistant nurses. It will be noted how the staff shortage in trained personnel is being made up by the recruitment of students under training or the employment of state enrolled assistant nurses. In spite of these difficulties the Association has got through a very valuable year's work.

Marie Curie Memorial Foundation

The Local Authority collaborates in the local arrangements sponsored by the above Foundation, which is especially devoted to the care and comfort of persons dying of malignant disease, including the reception of the worst cases into the Foundation's Nursing Homes, the nearest of which is the "Conrad House", Newcastle.

In 1964, an expenditure of £833 was incurred in providing nursing services, and of £83 in providing beds and clothing for necessitous patients. Altogether, nursing services were provided for 12 patients and help in kind was given to 9. No less than 9 patients had night nursing in their last moments. The work of this service is so valuable that it would appear that the Local Authority should recognise in some tangible way the value of the service and make some reciprocal donation as a token of appreciation.

I am indebted to Miss Greene, Superintendent of the District Nursing Association, for the following tabulation of the work done by the nursing staff in 1964:—

	<i>Acute illness</i>		<i>Maternity</i>		<i>Chronic illness</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>
No. on books at 1st January 1964 ..	6		5		350		361	
<i>No. nursed in:</i>								
January ..	31	351	52	942	426	5,043	509	6,336
February ..	29	263	48	935	408	4,385	485	5,583
March ..	30	236	47	846	413	4,449	490	5,531
April ..	34	350	48	1,057	417	4,694	499	6,101
May ..	38	765	52	1,044	413	4,581	503	6,390
June ..	40	378	58	1,135	422	4,986	520	6,499
July ..	36	299	46	1,256	413	4,642	495	6,197
August ..	33	303	49	1,037	403	4,344	485	5,684
September ..	28	335	47	1,040	393	4,558	468	5,933
October ..	32	285	42	907	422	4,877	496	6,069
November ..	38	428	69	1,106	428	4,854	535	6,388
December ..	39	453	53	969	452	5,065	544	6,487
No. on books at 31st December, 1964 ..	12		10		385		407	
Total cases nursed and visits paid during year ..	265	4,446	495	12,274	1,185	56,478	1,945	73,198

Persons over 65 years of age suffering from chronic conditions of an incurable nature totalled 816 and received 39,832 visits.

The following is an analysis of the types of cases nursed during the year:—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 65 years</i>	<i>Over 65 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
Arthritis	—	—	—	16	31	47
Anaemia	—	—	—	57	90	147
Burns and scalds	—	4	2	10	1	17
Cardiac	—	—	—	39	124	163
Carcinoma	—	—	—	69	69	138
Diabetics on insulin	—	—	—	3	10	13
Diseases of the C.N.S. ...	—	—	4	23	13	40
E.S. for constipation	—	—	2	26	44	72
E.S. for diagnostic purposes	—	—	—	4	3	7
Fractures	—	—	1	4	10	15
Gynaecological	—	—	—	10	18	28
Infections, E.N.T.	—	2	5	28	5	40
Infectious Diseases	—	—	—	1	—	1
Miscarriage	—	—	—	2	—	2
Maternal complications	—	—	—	21	—	21
Pulmonary T.B.	—	—	—	23	1	24
Other Forms T.B.	—	—	1	9	—	10
Phlebitis	—	—	—	1	1	2

<i>Disease</i>				<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 65 years</i>	<i>Over 65 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
Post-operative dressings	..	..	..	4	—	3	53	31	91
Respiratory disease	..	..	..	—	—	—	80	65	145
Senility	..	..	..	—	—	—	7	140	147
Septic conditions	..	..	..	3	2	6	63	47	121
Shingles	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	5	6
Supra-pubic cyst	..	..	..	—	—	—	1	6	7
Cer./Cor. thrombosis	..	..	..	—	—	—	26	90	116
Urinary infection	..	..	..	—	2	1	10	4	17
Others not diagnosed	..	..	..	—	—	—	5	8	13
<i>Totals</i>	..	..	..	7	10	25	592	816	1,450

Of the 1,450 patients who were nursed, 1,118 were medical, 276 were surgical, 21 suffered from complications of pregnancy or the puerperium, 34 were suffering from tuberculosis, and 1 suffered from infectious disease. There were, in addition, 484 maternity cases attended by the district nurse midwives. Of these, 391 were booked maternity cases and 93 were cases originally confined in hospital and discharged. In 1964, 351 patients were visited in connection with the administration of injections, a circumstance that necessitated 18,553 visits, of which 1,499 had to be made after 8 p.m.

Children are nursed at home only to a very limited extent, and no special arrangements have been made to assign a special nurse. Actually 17 patients under 5 and 25 of school age received roughly 15 visits each.

The nurses attended the children's ward of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital during the course of their training and received clinical lectures by the Consultant Paediatrician, Dr. R. H. Jackson.

Laundry Service

Through the Gateshead District Nursing Association there has been arranged facilities for the laundering of soiled linen by the hospital laundry, such linen being collected, transported and distributed by the Association. This service is very carefully controlled, for obvious reasons, and in 1964 only 35 patients received the service as compared with 140 in the previous year. The use of incontinence pads has been rejected because of the difficulties of disposal, both in houses heated by coal fires and in the houses dependent on smokeless fuels or on electricity or gas.

Wrekenton District

The Wrekenton district was served by the whole-time nurse who makes considerable use of her car in connection with her duties. During 1964 she looked after 69 patients and paid 4,147 visits. These patients were classified as 21 acute illnesses involving 1,304 visits, 46 chronic illnesses involving 2,595 visits and two cases of tuberculosis involving 248 visits. There were, in addition, 197 casual patients who did not receive any lengthy nursing and are not included in these figures. At

the end of the year 46 patients were still under attention. 29 of the patients were over 65 years and there were none under school age. 40 patients had more than 24 visits in the course of the year.

Chiropody in the Home

There are still no services for patients who are housebound and who require chiropody. Representations have been made that the Gateshead Nursing Association might apply some of the funds to the fulfilment of this need in patients who are having nursing care in the home.

7. Home Help Service

At the end of the year the staff consisted of one supervisor, one assistant supervisor, 2 permanent full-time helps and 102 part-time helps, figures which were no different from the previous year. The service was able to meet the demands made on it without recourse to the employment of seasonal helps and the tabular statement of work done during 1964 is in every way comparable with the work performed in the previous year.

Expenditure on the service in 1964 was estimated at £24,220, and the probable receipts at £1,150, giving a net expenditure of £23,070, as compared with £22,425 in 1963.

Mrs. Maitland, the Supervisor of Home Helps, has furnished the following report on the service in 1964:—

“Total number of cases on books at end of 1963:—

Acute illness and		
tuberculosis	..	21
Aged and chronic sick		578
		<hr/>
		599
		<hr/>

New cases attended during 1964:—

Maternity	..	..	44
Acute illness	..	..	70
Chronic sick	..	..	192
			<hr/>
			306
			<hr/>
Total cases attended	..		905

At the present time over 600 cases are attended by the home helps every week and an average of 140 visited by the supervisors. This has been made easier by many of the old people going into the Flats and Bungalows. The home help can go from one to another giving them many more visits.

The lot of the old people is not made easier by their families living far away, and so many of the daughters doing full-time work, and so many of them say that the responsibility is not theirs today. Even when

Month	Maternity				Acute				Chronic				Tuberculosis				Totals	
	Part time	Full time	Total cases	Total days attended	Part time	Full time	Total cases	Total days attended	Part time	Full time	Total cases	Total days attended	Part time	Full time	Total cases	Total days attended	Total Cases	Days
January	..	10	10	42	27	—	27	28	594	—	594	1,034	2	—	2	3	633	1,107
February	..	10	10	42	25	—	25	30	597	—	597	958	2	—	2	4	634	1,034
March	..	2	2	8	27	—	27	30	598	—	598	900	—	—	—	—	627	938
April	..	3	3	18	30	—	30	40	605	—	605	1,138	—	—	—	—	638	1,196
May	..	5	5	32	24	—	24	32	606	—	606	904	—	—	—	—	635	968
June	..	3	3	7	21	—	21	21	613	—	613	970	—	—	—	—	637	998
July	..	3	3	20	23	—	23	24	615	—	615	1,016	—	—	—	—	641	1,060
August	..	4	4	24	18	—	18	12	610	—	610	700	—	—	—	—	632	736
September	..	5	5	24	19	—	19	18	612	—	612	995	—	—	—	—	636	1,037
October	..	2	2	12	23	—	23	22	619	—	619	1,006	—	—	—	—	644	1,040
November	..	8	8	46	24	—	24	46	625	—	625	888	—	—	—	—	657	980
December	..	4	4	23	25	—	25	28	622	—	622	977	—	—	—	—	651	1,028

	Cases on books 1.1.64	New cases	Total cases helped during 1964		Total days given	
Maternity	1	44	45		298	
Chronic	578	192	770		11,486	
Acute	18	70	88		331	
Tuberculosis	2	—	2		7	
	599	306	905		12,122	

their parents are discharged from hospital they telephone the department saying so as they cannot stay off work.

We have now over 300 elderly women living alone and also 100 elderly men in similar circumstances.

The home help bears a heavy burden today, and it is expanding. As she appreciates the physical limitations of her old people she has many more jobs to do for them, such as carrying two or three days' supply of coal, etc., and shopping for their personal needs, never forgetting always to help them to help themselves."

8. Chiropody Service

During 1964, chiropody was carried out at the three local authority health centres, approximately seven sessions a week at Greenesfield and three sessions per fortnight at each of the Carr Hill and Wrekenton Health Centres, making a total of ten sessions altogether per week.

Altogether 214 patients attended for the first time during the year, made up of 62 males and 152 females. Subsequent visits of these and other patients numbered 3,350. 2,336 (502 males and 1,834 females), at Greenesfield, 478 (129 males and 349 females), at Carr Hill and 536 (145 males and 391 females), at Wrekenton Health Centres.

The growth in the demand for the chiropody services continues to increase, and the matter has been referred to the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Health Committee to investigate, with a view to a better service in relation to the demands. A considerable amount of clerical work is involved in making the necessary appointments and there is a very lengthy waiting list, coupled with a necessity to transport some of the elderly to and from the centres and clinics.

9. Vaccination and Immunisation

The work of immunising the child population of Gateshead continued without a stop during 1964, and the effect has been shown in the virtual disappearance of the common infectious diseases as causes of mortality.

The work provides immunity against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis and there have been no mishaps in connection with a very large number of injections and similar treatments. This work is shared between the public health medical staff and the family practitioners, but the popularisation work is almost entirely the propaganda field of the health visitors.

(a) *Vaccination against Smallpox*

During 1964, 613 persons were vaccinated and 116 re-vaccinated. The numbers included 344 infants under one year, 182 other children under school age, 24 school children and 63 adults. Adults accounted for 93 of the re-vaccinated. Out of 1,964 infants born in 1964, it would appear that 344, or 17.5 per cent. had been vaccinated.

393 primary vaccinations were carried out by the local authority medical staff and 220 by the family practitioners. All but 16 of the re-vaccinations were carried out by the family doctors and had to do with emigration in some cases.

(b) *Immunisation against Diphtheria*

During 1964, 1,381 children under 5 and 381 children of school age, a total of 1,762, completed a full course of immunisation. 725 received the 'booster' injection of the diphtheria-tetanus toxoid to stimulate the immunity mechanism when they first attended school.

Of the inoculations against diphtheria, 1,259 were carried out by local authority staff and 547 by the general practitioners. At the end of 1964 out of 8,800 pre-school children, only 4,951 (56.2 per cent.) had completed a primary course of immunisation, and out of 14,300 school children, 10,426 or 72.9 per cent. had completed a primary course of immunisation. In addition, 'booster' doses of diphtheria and tetanus prophylactic were given to 725 children, 651 by local authority staff and 74 by general practitioners. Altogether, 15,377 children out of some 23,100 have been protected against diphtheria, a percentage of 66.5

The prophylactics in use were the combined triple antigen, the diphtheria and tetanus and the formal toxoid manufactured by the Glaxo Laboratories and Burroughs Wellcome and Wright Fleming (Beechams).

(c) *Immunisation against Whooping Cough*

During 1964, 1,466 children were given the complete course of whooping cough prophylactics. Of this total 926 received injections from the local authority medical staff and 540 from the general practitioners of the area.

(d) *Immunisation against Tetanus*

Using the triple antigen, 1,467 children have been immunised against tetanus, 539 by the family practitioner and the remainder by the local authority medical staff. 331 children received prophylactic inoculations against tetanus and diphtheria only. Among 23,100 children under 15 in the Borough approximately 10,263 have been immunised against tetanus, or 44.4 per cent. This is a percentage that will increase with the use of the triple antigen.

(e) *Poliomyelitis Vaccination*

In 1964, using Salk Vaccine, a total of 4 persons received a full course of immunisation. All were children under 5 and these were carried out by general practitioners.

3 children under school age received the fourth booster dose. All were done by the general practitioners.

In 1964, using Sabin oral vaccine, a total of 1,546 children under 15 were immunised against poliomyelitis, 1,069 by the local authority staff and 477 by the general practitioners. Of these 1,546 children, 1,498 were under school age, 28 children of school age received third booster doses after 2 Salk injections and 27 received fourth booster doses after 3 Salk injections. 194 children under 5 received third booster doses and 156 fourth booster doses. Of this total of booster doses for children, 262 were done by the local authority staff and the remainder by the general practitioners.

In addition to this, 2 young persons between 16 and 19 years old received the full course of immunisation. One of these was done by the local authority staff and the other by a general practitioner. 4 persons in this age group received third booster doses and one received a fourth booster dose. Of these 5 booster doses 3 were done by general practitioners and the rest by local authority staff.

Adults between the ages of 20 and 29 were immunised to the number of 88. Of these, 56 were carried out by the local authority staff and the remainder by general practitioners. The persons in this group receiving third booster doses were 23 and 7 received the fourth booster dose. Of this total of 30 booster doses, 10 were given by the general practitioners and the remainder by local authority staff.

Of the adults over 29 years of age, 76 received a full course of immunisation, 29 being completed by the general practitioners and the remaining 47 by the local authority staff. Booster doses given in this age group were 8 third booster doses and 4 fourth booster doses. 6 of this total of 12 booster doses were carried out by the general practitioners and the rest by local authority staff.

(f) *B.C.G. Vaccination*

In 1964, children born in the years 1950 and 1951 were offered protective vaccination and of the children born in 1950, 678 were submitted to the skin test. Of this number 61 (9 per cent.), proved to be positive reactors, and therefore unsuitable for B.C.G. Vaccination and 34 had already had B.C.G. vaccination. 42 did not attend to have the skin test read, 2 were already under observation and 3 had a doubtful reading and the test was to be repeated. 536 children were therefore vaccinated with B.C.G. Freeze Dried Vaccine during the year. The 61 positive reactors were sent for examination by chest x-ray with the following results:—

Calcified Hilar Glands	..	..	..	1
Referred to Chest Clinic for observation				4
Did not attend for x-ray	..	..	..	5
N.A.D.	..	..	..	51

Among the children born in 1951, 703 were submitted to the skin test. Of this number 48 (6.8 per cent.), proved to be positive reactors and therefore unsuitable for B.C.G. Vaccination and 31 had already had B.C.G. Vaccination. 20 did not attend for reading of the test, 3 were already under observation and 18 had doubtful results and were to be re-tested. 583 children were vaccinated with B.C.G. Freeze Dried Vaccine during the year. In 4 cases it was not thought necessary to have an x-ray examination of the chest and therefore 44 children were referred for this

examination with the following results:—

Referred to Chest Clinic for observation	4
Did not attend for X-ray	13
N.A.D.	27

Children attending Grammar schools in the Borough were also offered protective vaccination and of those born in 1948 211 were submitted to the skin test. Of this number 36 (17.1 per cent.), proved to be positive reactors and 9 had already had B.C.G. Vaccination, 9 did not attend to have the test read, 1 was already under observation and 3 had doubtful skin tests which were to be repeated. 153 children were therefore vaccinated. The 36 tuberculin reactors were referred for x-ray examination with the following results:—

Referred to Chest Clinic for observation	1
Did not attend for X-ray	3
N.A.D.	32

Grammar school children born in the year 1949 were also offered protective vaccination and 186 were submitted to the test. Of this number 24 (12.9 per cent.), proved to be positive reactors and therefore unsuitable for B.C.G. Vaccination and 6 had already had B.C.G. vaccination. One child was already under observation, 4 children did not attend to have the test read and 7 had a doubtful reading and were to be re-tested. 144 children were therefore given B.C.G. Vaccination, and 24 children were referred for x-ray examination of the chest with the following results:—

Referred to Chest Clinic for observation	2
Did not attend for x-ray	2
N.A.D.	20

It is interesting to compare the percentages of positive reactors in this age group from year to year, as shown in the following table:—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Skin tested ..	948	858	800	640	736	1,427	1,380	1,177	933	1,778
Positive reactors	293	255	187	136	190	313	214	139	118	169
Percentage positive reactors ..	30.9	29.8	23.4	21.5	25.8	21.9	15.5	11.7	12.6	9.5

Vaccination of contacts

217 young contacts of notified cases of tuberculosis were skin tested through the Chest Clinic Service, and of these 15 were found to be positive reactors and 202 negative reactors. Altogether 305 contacts were given B.C.G. inoculation (including 103 newborn babies).

10. Municipal Ambulance Service

The demands on this service continue to increase and have now involved transport for over 70,000 persons and a mileage of over 200,000. The increased demand has necessitated greater use of the clinic ambulances together with an addition to the driving staff.

Although representations have been made to the Gateshead Hospital Management Committee that they should deal with transport within the Queen Elizabeth Hospital scheme themselves rather than depend on the municipal ambulance service, it was not possible to have the necessary financial adjustments made during the financial year 1963/64. It is hoped

that the necessary provision for a patient-carrying vehicle and a driver within the Queen Elizabeth Hospital will be possible in 1965, so relieving the municipal ambulance service of a demand that means a vehicle and two drivers of a crew who have hitherto been entirely devoted to this work.

Replacement of Vehicles

During 1964 there were two replacements of stretcher ambulances which were obsolete and an additional dual purpose vehicle was added to the fleet.

Staff

Mr. H. Fletcher retired from the service on reaching the age limit in November, 1964, and it is only right to pay a tribute to his lengthy, valuable and dedicated service to the local authority since the initiation of the municipal ambulance scheme in 1943. He has been succeeded by Mr. S. J. Graham, who moved from a similar position at Sunderland into the Gateshead service, and who came to us well fortified with much experience in the local authority ambulance problems. At the end of the year the staff consisted of the ambulance officer, his deputy, Mr. C. Smith, 4 senior drivers, 26 ambulance drivers and a clerk.

Cost of the Service in 1964

The estimated cost of the service was £44,055, as against £38,980 in 1963. Revenue, including charges to other authorities for return journeys from Gateshead hospitals, amounted to £5,405, an increase on £5,345, the figure for last year. The net cost of the service to Gateshead was therefore £38,650, compared with £33,635 in 1963. In April, the charges made to other authorities for the use of the ambulance service were increased from 3/-d. to 4/-d. a mile for a stretcher ambulance and from 1/9d. to 2/-d. a mile for a sitting case car. These charges are based on an actuarial report of the Borough Treasurer.

Work of the Service in 1964

The following summarises the work of the ambulance service carried out during the year:—

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Other persons</i>	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Transport by ambulance	23,301	505	5,947	68,734
(accident emergencies included in above)	(1,065)			
Transport by sitting case car	987	23	463	14,120
(accident emergencies included in above)	(1)			
Transport by clinic ambulance	30,124	18,899	5,950	108,169
(accident emergencies included in above)	(179)			
Service journeys	—	—	706	5,570
(Home disinfections—nil)				
Transport of beds, etc.	—	—	19	101
Midwives transport and transport of analgesia apparatus	—	—	727	5,157
	54,412	19,427	13,812	201,851

The term "service journeys" is used to cover individual demands where no patients are carried, but only items of equipment. It also includes false calls or journeys undertaken to remove patients who refuse to travel to hospital.

Transport Chargeable to Other Authorities

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Ambulances	632	513	4,070
Sitting case cars	193	158	4,164
Clinic ambulances	2,184	1,701	15,160
	3,009	2,372	23,394

Petrol Consumption 14,465 gallons

This amount includes 28 gallons issued to other authorities 95 gallons to Civil Defence, 5 gallons issued to us from other authorities and 956 gallons issued to Park Road Cars.

Vehicles

At the end of the year the service consisted of 6 stretcher ambulances, 7 clinic ambulances, 2 sitting case cars, 1 utility van and 3 civil defence ambulances.

Patients carried and Mileage completed since 1949

<i>Year</i>	<i>Patients and other persons</i>	<i>Miles</i>
1949	27,576	149,557
1950	30,117	170,686
1951	29,280	172,806
1952	32,147	173,218
1953	43,702	171,576
1954	44,130	171,436
1955	51,368	173,904
1956	60,498	192,209
1957	60,571	188,152
1958	54,835	177,198
1959	55,831	179,090
1960	59,817	190,468
1961	62,644	193,549
1962	68,563	194,788
1963	67,656	190,545
1964	73,839	201,851

11. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care

(a) Tuberculosis

In order to avoid duplication, most of the clinical work of care and after-care of tuberculous patients is detailed in the report of the Chest Physician in Part III of this report. This section will therefore deal only with the purely local authority aspect of this work.

X-ray Examination

The Odelca 100 mm. Unit situated in the former dispensary building within the grounds of Greenesfield House is readily available for the

x-ray examination of patients referred by the general practitioners and the local authority medical officers and even for members of the general public to simply walk in. Considerable use, too, is made of this machine for the examination of contacts, but the special categories of expectant mothers and young children are examined elsewhere, namely the Queen Elizabeth Hospital on Saturday morning for expectant mothers and babies and at the Gateshead Children's Hospital by arrangement with the Paediatrician, Dr. R. H. Jackson. The Odelca Unit is used for the examination of positive tuberculin reactors found among the older school children, and it is open at the following times:—

Monday to Friday	2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Monday and Thursday Evening ..	5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Work of Odelca X-Ray Unit, Returns for Year 1964
(Gateshead and Felling Cases)

<i>Referred from:—</i>	<i>No. x-rayed</i>				<i>Referred to Chest Clinic</i>			
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Doctors' cases ..	1,213	963	26	2,202	248	160	5	413
School Medical Officers' cases ..	—	—	158	158	—	—	17	17
General Public ..	345	586	10	941	29	35	5	69
Industrial and Other Groups	394	239	2	635	32	17	—	49
Contacts:								
Remote	61	149	62	272	5	16	9	30
Domestic	37	79	4	120	6	12	2	20
Army intakes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chest Clinic (known cases, recovered, etc.)	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	<i>2,050</i>	<i>2,017</i>	<i>262</i>	<i>4,329</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>598</i>

The Newcastle Mass Miniature Mobile Units have continued in the Borough, and the following returns have been supplied by the Unit Secretary, in respect of the work done in Gateshead:—

“During 1964, both the Newcastle Mobile X-ray Unit and the Regional Caravan Unit operated in Gateshead x-raying 11,809 persons at Industrial Centres and 86 persons at Welfare Services Homes. In addition, the Newcastle Static M.M.R. Unit continued to x-ray a number of Gateshead residents working in Newcastle, and also undertook the processing of all the x-ray films taken by the Gateshead Static Unit at the field, 4,329 in number.

15 Industrial Establishments were visited at the request of Medical Officers of Health and/or Chest Physicians. 2 Welfare Services Homes were also visited.

Details of the work carried out are as follows but do not include a 5-day General Public Survey in the Wrekenton, Carr Hill Road, Beacon

Lough, Prince Consort Road and Saltwell Road locations:—

Group				Referred to	Tuberculosis	
	No. x-rayed			Chest Clinic	Treatment	Supervision
Industrial	11,809	78	13	1		
Welfare Homes	86	6	1	—		
	11,895	84	14	1		

Assistance to the Tuberculous

In 1964, 16 special recommendations were added to those already lodged with the housing department for priority of rehousing. During 1964, 23 were so rehoused and this forms 2.8 per cent. of the corporation houses let to new tenants.

In 1964, the Chest and Heart Fund continued to be administered for the benefit of the tuberculous. This fund is available to help people suffering from tuberculosis and other diseases of the chest who may be recommended by the chest physicians for necessary social and financial assistance. The fund is maintained largely by the sale of Christmas Seals through the voluntary efforts of the clerical staff of the health department, although a few donations are also received from Workmen's Charities and from other individuals. At the end of 1964 the amount standing to the credit of the fund was £975, of which £157 had been collected during the year from the sale of seals and from donations. Disbursements were made to the extent of £63.

In the matter of giving financial help to the tuberculous families the Assistance Board officers have given every assistance and have co-operated freely with the local authority officers in seeing that no case of tuberculosis was neglected or suffered as a result of financial stringency.

The home care of tuberculous families is now virtually the responsibility of the health visiting service alone. It has been arranged that the health visitors meet every month with the chest physicians in order to discuss the difficult cases and also to supply necessary information to the chest physicians regarding the social background of the patients.

Venereal Disease

In connection with the work of the special clinic at the Newcastle General Hospital, the health visiting service is used to trace contacts and follow up defaulters. There were 5 contacts referred during the year for follow-up. 7 visits were made in regard to these cases, including 2 ineffective visits. There were 40 defaulters and 8 quinquennial cases, involving 111 visits in all, 59 of these being ineffective. Once patients have defaulted, they are usually most reluctant to go back to Ward 34, and a great deal of time is spent in repeated visits to persuade them to do so.

Invalid Aids

An important section of the Local Authority responsibility under the National Health Service Act concerns the supply of invalid aids.

These aids are usually issued where the doctor or the Matron of the Nursing Association feels that they are necessary. The actual supervision of the issue of the invalid aids is carried out by the Supervisor of the Home Help Service. In a great number of cases the items listed are issued for longer periods of chronic illness and there is, as a result, a considerable wastage due to normal wear and tear, so that fresh supplies of certain appliances are constantly having to be purchased.

During 1964, the following items were issued on loan:—

Bedpans	..	..	..	53 occasions
Backrests	..	..	..	39 „
Mattresses	..	..	..	1 occasion
Air rings	..	..	..	42 occasions
Rubber sheets	..	..	..	52 „
Urine bottles	..	..	..	34 „
Commodes	..	..	..	11 „
Bed cradles	..	..	..	6 „
Wheel chairs	..	..	..	20 „
Bedsteads	..	..	..	2 „
Tripod stick	..	..	..	4 „
Bed pulley and clamp	..	..	..	1 occasion
Feeding cups	..	..	..	1 „
Plastic pillow cases	..	..	..	4 occasions
Rubber ring	..	..	..	1 occasion
Elbow crutches	..	..	..	1 „
Walking stick	..	..	..	1 „
Ecko Baby Sitta	..	..	..	1 „
Disposable sputum mugs	..	..	..	24 occasions
Bed	..	..	..	1 occasion

Convalescent Holiday Treatment

The Local Authority may arrange for a convalescent holiday for invalids who are recommended this form of treatment by their own doctors and who are unable themselves to procure such treatment. During 1964 54 applications were received and dealt with as follows:—

- *27 cases admitted to Rose Joicey Home, Whitburn
- 8 cases admitted to Horn Hall Hospital, Stanhope
- 1 case admitted to Margate Hostel (Mental After Care Assoc.)
- 1 case admitted to Armstrong House, Bamburgh
- 1 case admitted to David Lewis Epileptic Colony, Cheshire
- 16 applications were withdrawn
- (*Does not include 3 children who accompanied their mothers)

The cost of the service was £408 5s. 11d. and the sum of £63 2s. 11d. was assessed as recoverable. Actually £55 13s. 7d. had been recovered by the end of the year.

Two cases were assessed as liable to pay the full cost, 21 part of the cost and in 7 cases no charge was made.

No charge was made to the Local Authority by the Hospital Management Committee for the 8 patients accommodated at Horn Hall Hospital

12. Mental Health

(a) Administration

Through the Mental Health Sub-Committee listed below the activities of the mental welfare section of this department are reported. The staff

consists of three male mental welfare officers, six female staff of a junior training centre for children of both sexes and adult females and three male adults for the work of the adult male training centre. One established post for a female mental welfare officer has been impossible to fill since the retirement of Miss Ogden.

Tribute must be paid to the consultants of the psychiatric hospital and hospital for the subnormal respectively, who have always been ready with their advice in problems involving the respective classes of patient. A particularly valuable service is a regular monthly clinic at Greenesfield Health Centre attended by a consultant from Prudhoe Hospital who sees and classifies such subnormal patients as are brought for his opinion. The Medical Superintendent of Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Dr. G. McCoull, keeps a well documented and frequently revised waiting list for all patients from various authorities. He has always been very good in adjusting the priority of admission of subnormal patients in cases of emergency. As in previous years, the ascertainment of subnormal patients is carried out through the pre-school and school medical services which act in very close liaison with the mental welfare aspects of the department's work. There does seem to be scope for co-operation with other official and unofficial agencies who are concerned with problems of mental health, *e.g.* the police, probation officers and officers of the Ministry of Labour and Assistance Board.

The personnel of the mental welfare sub-committee is given below:—

Chairman: COUNCILLOR W. COLLINS

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR A. V. TURNBULL

ALD. MRS. M. BELL
 „ A. CROSSLEY
 „ J. T. ETHERINGTON
 „ J. HUTCHISON
 „ B. N. YOUNG

COUN. W. HARLAND
 „ MRS. A. E. JEWITT
 „ F. JOHNSON
 „ C. RYANS
 „ J. C. S. WHEATLEY

(b) *Staff*

In addition to the three mental welfare officers, Mrs. Moore takes charge of the junior training centre, together with five assistant supervisors, and Mr. Herdman acts as manager for the adult training centre with two male assistants. All the staff at the adult training centre are skilled craftsmen.

(c) *Co-ordination*

Liaison with other authorities, both hospital and local, is entirely at officer level.

(d) *Voluntary Associations*

The St. Mary's Hospital patients' club continued its activities throughout the year with a mental welfare officer from Gateshead or

from the adjoining Durham County service in attendance at each session. Many of the patients are brought also from St. Mary's to take part in the activities.

So far as handicapped children are concerned, the local branch of the organisation of parents is represented on the mental welfare committee and the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children continues to function through a Newcastle branch, which is in close touch with this department.

(e) *Training of Staff*

None of the mental welfare officers has had any course of training during the year, but the training centre staff attended a day's conference sponsored by Newcastle, at which their problems were discussed. The arrangements for training new staff are exceedingly expensive and depend on the secondment of salaried officers for long periods with the necessary additional expense of replacement. This type of arrangement has not so far met with favour from the local authority.

(f) *Mental Health Act, 1959*

Both the South Close Adult Training Centre and the Old Fold Junior Training Centre have been immensely successful and are now grossly overcrowded. The buildings are quite unsuitable, being adapted wartime nursery buildings. Accordingly, the Council has determined to replace both these centres in 1965/66, and at the end of the year planning was begun on a site at High Fell for a Junior Training Centre catering for 70 children, and steps were being taken to try and secure a site on the Team Valley Trading Estate for a small adult training centre for adults of both sexes.

The issue of incentive payments continues to the adults in attendance at both centres and there is no doubt this secures the interest and regular attendance of the trainees.

It would be optimistic to state that the provisions of the Mental Health Act are satisfactory to everyone in the mental health field. The attempt to get rid of the stigma of certification entails the premature or irregular discharge of many patients before their treatment has been concluded.

Other difficulties relating to the operation of the Act occur. In one case it was necessary to apply to the County Court for the transfer of the parental rights under the Act to the Local Health Authority in order to achieve the admission of a girl to hostel care. The girl concerned had been educated in a residential school for educationally subnormal girls and was known to have a brother who was also mentally subnormal and who was known to have an aggressive sexual tendency.

Another set of circumstances that comes to mind was the constant difficulty created for the local authority and its committees by the activities of a man whose wife was having treatment under order in the Mental Hospital. The children of this man had to be taken into the care of the

Local Authority because they were in danger. The father of the family, who lived as a sub-tenant of his own father had been evicted by his own father for rent arrears and other reasons and therefore had finally to be admitted to the local accommodation for the homeless. He made repeated efforts to have his wife discharged before the termination of her treatment, writing letters to influential people claiming the discharge of his wife from the hospital and advancing the false information that he was promised a council house if she were discharged and that he would have his children returned to him. The Mental Health Tribunal heard the case and decided not to discharge the wife at that time. The man himself had been offered employment several times, but apparently could not retain the posts that were found for him, and for the most part was living on national assistance. Finally, the wife recovered sufficiently to be discharged, and at this stage she obtained employment as he did. They both left this district and it is understood that they have taken up residence in an adjoining area, where there is very little doubt they will cause as much trouble to the local authority as they did here. Mention of this case shows the difficulty in dealing with what are called under the Act 'Psychopaths'. These may be sent under order for treatment if a hospital is willing to admit them only if they are under 25, but if over 25 years, although acknowledged to be psychopaths they cannot be detained unless they have been sent by a Court Order following some criminal offence.

In the year under review, one man whom we got with some difficulty into institutional care with the requisite two certificates, appealed to the Mental Health Tribunal. The Tribunal discharged the Order on the grounds that although the man was a psychopath he could not be detained because he was over 25 years of age.

Mental Illness

In 1964, 352 mentally ill persons were referred to the mental welfare officers. 315 of this total (141 males and 174 females), were admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, and 2 females to other hospitals. This leaves 35 of the patients (15 males and 20 females), who remained at home under supervision. The total number of visits that were paid in connection with mental illness amounted to 1,056. It is worthy of note that of the 315 admissions to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, 119 were persons admitted for the first time. 84 patients (37 males and 47 females), were referred by the hospital for after-care.

The age distribution of the 315 patients admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, is tabulated below, along with the manner of admission and the fate of those admitted to this hospital in 1964:—

Table I. Age and Sex Distribution of Mentally Ill Persons admitted to St. Mary's Hospital

<i>Age</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 21 years	..	..	..	..	10	9	19
21 - 45 years	..	..	..	..	52	49	101
45 - 64 years	..	..	..	..	39	65	104
Over 65 years	..	..	..	..	40	51	91
					141	174	315

Table II. Particulars of Admissions through Mental Health Service and Other Relevant Data (St. Mary's Hospital)

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
a. Admitted informally .. ..	..	..	98	106	204
b. Admitted for observation .. ..	..	..	43	68	111
Of these:—					
(i) ultimately detained .. ..	..	..	8	8	16
(ii) made informal .. ..	..	..	35	60	95
c. Admitted as detained patients ..	..	..	—	—	—
			141	174	315
<hr/>					
No. of these discharged in 1964..	..	..	126	169	295
No. who died in 1964 .. ..	..	..	23	10	33

In the above table reference is made to 315 patients admitted through the mental health department to St. Mary's Hospital, but the hospital accepts the number of admissions during the year as 335 (146 males and 189 females). The difference between the two figures represents the number of patients admitted by direct arrangements between the practitioners and the hospitals.

Mental Subnormality

During 1964, 15 males, 6 under 16 years and 9 over that age, together with 18 females, 11 under 16 and 7 above this age, were referred to the Local Authority from the Educational System. One male and two female subnormal persons were discharged from hospital and the police courts brought to the notice of the Local Authority 2 male subnormals over 16 years of age. 3 of the males and 5 of the females were severely subnormal, all being under school age.

This means that at the end of the year the Local Authority was supervising 18 boys and 20 girls attending the junior day training centre, 33 youths attending the adult training centre and 14 adult girls attending the senior division of the Old Fold Training Centre. In addition, 24 boys and 31 girls were being cared for at home, as were 100 adult males and 91 adult females. Altogether, 335 subnormal persons at home are known to the Local Authority. 88 of these are having training, 247 are being supervised at home, none of them is resident in a hostel or training centre and none is receiving home training.

Of this total 11 are reckoned to be in urgent need of hospital care, 6 children under 16 (4 boys and 2 girls), and 5 adults (2 males and 3 females)

During the year, 8 persons, made up of 2 boys, 2 girls and 4 adult women, were temporarily admitted to hospital for a period of residential care. Subnormal persons in institutions are made up as follows :—

			<i>Under 16</i>		<i>Over 16</i>		<i>Total</i>	
			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1. In places of safety .. ..	..	..	—	—	4	4	4	4
2. Detained in Institutions ..	..	..	—	—	23	27	23	27
3. In Institutions (informally)..	..	..	16	15	70	85	86	100
			16	15	97	116	113	131
							244	

This means that in addition to the 334 subnormal persons being cared for at home and supervised by the Local Authority, there are 244 normally in hospital or institution, and of the latter 8 have been admitted for reasons of safety.

Psychopathic Conditions

None of these came to light during the year, but one mentally subnormal youth probably merited the title and was sent to Prudhoe Hospital for detention during the year.

Training Centres

Old Fold Junior Training Centre

I am indebted to Mrs. Moore, Superintendent of the Old Fold Junior Training Centre for the following particulars:—

	<i>Under 16 years</i>		<i>Females</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>over 16</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of trainees on register, January, 1964	20	17	10	47
No. of trainees admitted during 1964 ..	4	6	1	11
No. of trainees removed from the register	6	—	—	6
No. of trainees on register at 31.12.64 ..	18	23	11	52
No. of days the centre was open in 1964			194	
Actual attendances .. .. .	..	..	8,334	

The pupils removed from the register were boys who became of age to attend the Adult Training Centre.

Staff

The staff of the centre comprised the trained supervisor, Mrs. Moore, and five assistants, Mesdames E. Taylor, J. M. Taylor, Coutts, Wilson and Curran. There were also a cook and assistant cook and two cleaners.

Two students taking the Diploma Course at Sheffield attended the centre as part of their training. The centre was visited by the Tutor of the Sheffield Course, who expressed her satisfaction with the practical training that was given. Both students succeeded in obtaining the diploma.

Health

On the whole, the health of the children was satisfactory, the illnesses being of a minor character such as bronchitis and tonsillitis, while there was one case of scarlet fever and five of chickenpox. A number of children are under supervision at various local hospitals.

Premises

The training centre suffered tremendously at the hands of the local vandals, even in spite of intensive care by the police. The damage is mainly done at the weekends and during holiday periods.

In the cold weather of the winter complaints were again received regarding low temperatures inside the building, which, being of prefabricated temporary construction, is not able to retain the heat. For most of the year, heating, when necessary, is by way of electric fittings.

Transport

During the year the children were taken to and from the centre by the Gateshead Ambulance Service, no fewer than four clinic ambulances being used for the purpose.

Special Activities

There was a trip to a pantomime at the Sunderland Empire Theatre on 29th January, 1964. On 12th May, 1964, a trip was undertaken to the Flamingo Park Zoo in Yorkshire, this being very much enjoyed by the children who were quite interested in the identification of the different wild animals. The Sports Day was held on 15th July, 1964, on which day the pupils of the Adult Male Training Centre also attended. In November, there was a Sale of Work by the pupils. £42 17s. 3d. was paid into the Borough Treasurer's Office from the sale of work made during 1964. The children put on special performances of a pantomime on Wednesday, November 25th, and December 2nd, the latter being in the evening at the request of the parents who were working. A successful children's party was also held on December 9th. The local Gateshead Rotary Club takes an interest in the work of the centre, and there is a local Parents' Association which is extending its activities rapidly. During 1964 they presented a children's slide.

South Close Adult Training Centre

Mr. Herdman, the Manager of the Training Centre has supplied me with the following statistical details:—

No. of trainees on 1st January, 1964	..	..	..	..	32
No. of trainees admitted to register during 1964	..	..	..	..	8
No. of trainees removed from register during 1964	..	..	..	..	8
No. of trainees on register on December 31st, 1964	..	..	..	..	32
No. of trainees attending	..	..	..	..	32
No. of days the centre was open	..	..	..	..	195
No. of attendances	..	..	..	..	5,650

It is gratifying to report considerable success in maintaining a very high standard of attendances and the performance of valuable sub-contract work in the centre. The incentive payments made to the lads now provides for a maximum of 15/-d. per week as against the previous 10/-d. At the same time the centre has now gone over to a full working year, so to speak and will only close for an annual summer holiday and the statutory Bank Holidays, which is a departure from the scholastic year which has been the previous pattern.

Of the youths who removed from the register some have attempted seasonal or short-time employment and others have been removed because

they failed to attend. No fewer than 59 youths have actually attended the centre since it opened in 1960.

Mr. Herdman acknowledges the assistance of the two assistant supervisors who are craftsmen and who, together with him, carry out the industrial special contract work which is more than sufficient to cover the cost of the incentive bonuses.

Meals on the premises are supplied by the School Meals Service and a home help is loaned to assist in the washing up and service of the meals to the youths.

Transport

Many of the trainees find their own way to and from the centre, but the local ambulance service does pick up those who live at a considerable distance.

Health

There was no reason to be concerned over the health and fitness of the trainees during the year.

Premises

Considerable vandalism occurred during the year, windows being broken and considerable damage being done internally. It is hard to understand how this can occur without noise of breaking glass being heard by the residents of the locality, who could then report the matter to the police. This vandalism, of course, is part of the national problem and it is doubtful to know how it can be controlled, short of capturing the culprits and delivering condign punishment of a financial or corporal nature. The provision of a new training centre on the Trading Estate was discussed by the Ministry of Health, and it appeared that a suitable site would be ensured for the construction of a new adult training centre catering for both sexes.

13. Priority Dental Services

Report of Chief Dental Officer, Mr. J. Whitehouse

Treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under Five Years

All forms of treatment were carried out at the Authority's three Health Centres. A dental officer, Mr. R. Robson, was appointed on 6th January, 1964, filling a vacancy caused by a previous resignation.

(a) Dental Inspection or Examination

The inspection of expectant mothers was carried out as in previous years, in co-operation with the hospital ante-natal clinic.

Of the number of expectant and nursing mothers examined 32 per cent. were found to require treatment, and of this number 20.7 per cent. were treated at the clinic, a decrease of 7 per cent.

The periodic inspection of children under five years of age was, as in the past, confined to those attending the Authority's Nursery Schools, Residential Schools and Day Nurseries, the remaining inspection being done for children brought to the clinic when in dental trouble. The number found to be in need of treatment was 69.8 per cent., an increase of .2 per cent, and of those found to require treatment almost 80 per cent. were treated at the clinic, a decrease of 14.8 per cent.

(b) *Dental Treatment*

Facilities exist for a comprehensive dental treatment to be given. The figures in the appended table show the types of work carried out for the priority classes.

(c) *Arrangements for the Provision of Dentures*

As in past years, all denture work is carried out in the Greenesfield Laboratory, which is staffed by one senior dental technician-in-charge and one senior dental technician.

(d) *Facilities for X-ray Examination*

These facilities exist at the Authority's Greenesfield Health Centre, Carr Hill Clinic and Wrekenton Clinic, x-rays being taken as and when they are required.

Tables recording treatment to Priority Dental Services are appended.

A. Number Provided with Dental Care

		<i>No. of persons examined during the year</i>	<i>No. of persons who commenced treatment during the year</i>	<i>No. of courses of treatment completed dur- ing the year</i>
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	..	1,577	102	65
Children aged under five years	..	137	118	110

B. Forms of Dental Treatment Provided

		<i>Scal- ings and gum treat- ment</i>	<i>Fill- ings</i>	<i>Silver nit- rate</i>	<i>Crowns or in- lays</i>	<i>Extrac- tions</i>	<i>Gen- eral anaes- thetics</i>	<i>Dentures Provided</i>		<i>X-ray</i>
								<i>Full upper or full lower</i>	<i>Part upper or part lower</i>	
Expectant and nursing mothers		35	26	—	—	404	55	62	6	5
Children under 5 years	.. ..	5	18	—	—	219	111	—	—	—

14. Orthopaedic Treatment

Report by Mr. A. E. Bremner, F.R.C.S.

20 orthopaedic clinics were held at Greenesfield Health Centre during 1964.

New Cases

41 new cases were examined. Of these 17 were school children who made 27 visits and 24 were children under school age who made 33 visits.

Cases already under treatment

In addition 64 old cases made 100 visits to the orthopaedic clinic. Of these 33 were school children who made 53 visits and 31 were children under school age who made 47 visits.

A summary of defects found is presented herewith:—

					<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Old Cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
<i>Congenital Defects</i>							
Deformity of toes	..	..	..	..	2	10	19
Amputation	..	..	..	..	—	1	2
Deformity of fingers	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Short neck	..	..	..	..	—	2	3
Pigeon chest	..	..	..	..	2	—	3
Cavity of lower sternum	..	..	..	..	1	—	2
					6	14	31
<i>Deformities of feet</i>							
Flat feet	..	..	..	..	7	9	27
Hallux Valgus	..	..	..	..	—	1	3
Eversion	..	..	..	..	1	—	2
Intoed gait	..	..	..	..	4	6	14
Cavus foot	..	..	..	..	—	2	4
Abduction	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
					12	19	51
<i>Nervous Diseases</i>							
Sequelae to poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	—	3	6
Erb's palsy	..	..	..	..	—	1	4
					—	4	10
<i>Postural defects</i>							
Torticollis	..	..	..	..	—	2	3
Kypholordosis	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	1	3	8
					1	6	12
<i>Miscellaneous</i>							
Knock knees	..	..	..	..	8	5	16
Bow legs	..	..	..	..	2	5	12
Pain over fibula	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Shortening of leg	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Pain in foot	..	..	..	..	2	—	3
Pain in knee	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Wasting of arm	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Posterior iliac Horns of Fong's Syndrome	..	..	..	..	—	1	2
Nil abnormal	..	..	..	..	10	6	19
					22	21	56

Appliances

I pre-school child was recommended an appliance. One was supplied.

Alteration to shoes (Valgus Wedges) were carried out during the year 1964 as follows :—

Education	..	15
Maternity and Child Welfare	..	23

15. Nursing Homes

Craigielea Nursing Home continues under the guidance of Miss Twitchett, the Matron, to provide accommodation for 15 patients suffering from chronic illness and for the emergency reception of one maternity case.

16. Health Education

The main avenue for the dissemination of information and advice regarding health is by way of the personal contact between the health visitors and the families of their district. The regular visiting is supplemented by meetings in the local welfare centres and clinics, where literature of all kinds, including “Better Health”, “Mother and Baby Guides”, guides to the local social services, booklets on safety precautions in the home and similar publications are available for the taking. This effort is supplemented by the constant attention of the public health inspectors to the very important aspects of food hygiene.

In the new district clinics, such as Lobley Hill and the two to be opened in 1965, a demonstration room has been included, within which simple cookery demonstrations and the techniques of artificial feeding can be shown, while it is intended to have regular talks for the mothers and to expedite the social contacts between the mothers attending the centre by enrolling them in self-governing mothers’ clubs.

Members of the staff are also active in giving talks to specialist groups of people outside the hours of normal duty. For instance, the medical officer of health gave a talk on problem families to a group of assistance board officers, which was followed by a very close discussion and exchange of views. The superintendent health visitor also gave talks to “Young Wives” and similar groups.

The great difficulty about health propaganda is our inability to make impact on the people who do not desire or have any interest in matters of preventive hygiene. In most cases this is due to a backward and retarded mental development.

17. Problem Families

During 1964 there were 146 families under supervision by the health department. This was an increase of one family on the number supervised in 1963. During the year, the department, together with various voluntary organisations, notably the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the Women’s Voluntary Services and the

other departments of the corporation, notably the Children's Department, endeavoured to salvage some of the problem families, and this can probably be best illustrated by the following case:—

We were asked to assist the housing department and the children's department in the management of this family. The story was that the mother had died some twelve months previously. The father was a labourer, his basic wage being £9 10s. 0d. per week, and he was quite illiterate. There were four married children, there was an elder boy of then 17 who spent his time at home, did not work and had girl friends in his home on numerous occasions. Prior to her death, his mother had entered into a hire purchase Agreement for him to buy a motor bike, and there was still £80 owing. There was a girl of 15 who was endeavouring to look after the house, although she had no idea of management of finance or cooking. There was a boy of 13, who had had a serious accident involving brain damage and was about to come out of hospital, and there were a further four younger children at school. These four children were completely untrained. They were in trouble, breaking into neighbours' houses and running up debts at the corner shops for sweets. In addition to this, the family owed over £200 for furniture, £30 for rent, and they were threatened with eviction. They had no electricity, as the electric bill had not been paid, and it amounted to £14. They also had clothing clubs amounting to £60. On top of everything else, one of the married boys had left his wife, let his house and had come to live with his father but did not pay any rent or anything for his maintenance. Even the children's allowances of £2 8s. 0d. were mortgaged to various shops as security for the debts that had been incurred. The Health Department, with the W.V.S. and the Children's Department, managed to supply the children with clothing, as for the whole of the year no money had been spent on clothing or anything in the house. It was decided that the initial thing was to clear the debt and pay the rent and this was done. Then the electric light bill was cleared and a slot meter was put in so that the electric bills could be paid as the electricity was used. A great effort was made to try and get the 17-year old boy to work. This took a lot of time and effort and I am very pleased to report that, in fact, we were very successful and he is now holding down a good job and is in regular employment. The father, too, is working extremely hard, getting overtime, and in fact his employers were so pleased with him that they promoted him and his wage went up to an average of £15 a week.

During the year, the girl eventually came to school leaving age and left school, and the home help took her in hand, showing her how to budget, how to shop and how to clean the house. She was, in fact, an intelligent girl, who proved to be a very apt pupil. So much so, that towards the end of the year she would be able to take a part-time job and run the house assisted by her two married sisters.

The younger children continued to be quite a problem, and the culmination was when two of them, the 13-year old and the 9-year old, broke into a factory on the Trading Estate and stole money, hid it and gave themselves an allowance from it. As a result of this they were brought

before the Court and the older of the two was sent to an Approved School.

At the end of the year, most of the debt, with the exception of some of the £200 owing for the furniture, had been cleared and it is quite obvious that we will have to continue to supervise this family for some considerable time, but it is very nice to be able to report that at the present moment they are doing extremely well and they seem to have benefited greatly from the help and from the education that we were able to give them. I would like to thank the health visitors, the home helps and the other various corporation departments, especially the Children's Department and the voluntary associations, the W.V.S., and the N.S.P.C.C., for their continued co-operation and hard work in the endeavour to improve the lot of many of the children in these problem families.

C. LOCAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(Part IV of the National Health Service Act)

Through the kindness of the Clerk of the Local Executive Council, Mr. D. W. N. Franklin, I am able to furnish the following information about the Council Service for the financial year ending March, 1965:—

1. General Medical Service

104,741 persons were registered on the lists of doctors in the area, which represents a decrease of 634 on the corresponding figure of last year. Altogether there were 96 doctors on the medical list, of whom 43 reside in and have surgeries in Gateshead.

In the obstetric list, 39 resident doctors were included. During 1964, 1,167 women received maternity medical services from doctors on the Council's list as against 1,278 in 1963.

The amount paid to doctors during the year ended 31st March, 1965, were as below :—

	£
Capitation payments	107,764
"Loadings"	39,770
Temporary residents	1,133
Maternity medical services	12,031
Other expenditure	9,783
	<hr/>
	£170,481
	<hr/>

2. Pharmaceutical Services

There were 29 chemists' shops under agreement to dispense medicine, drugs and scheduled appliances and 7 contractors supplying surgical appliances. The total payments in respect of this service during the year (including rota payments) was £237,559, and there were 490,979 prescriptions. The average cost per prescription was 10s. 10d. The amount paid by patients amounted to £49,074.

3. Dental Services

There were 22 dentists on the list. In addition, there were two assistants, one full-time, not included in the list. The cost of this service was £90,157, in addition to £21,516 paid directly by the patients.

4. Ophthalmic Service

Four ophthalmic medical practitioners were under agreement with the ophthalmic services committee to test sight, and 25 ophthalmic opticians were under agreement to test sight and dispense glasses. One dispensing optician is also under contract with the Council. Three of the ophthalmic medical practitioners and 15 of the ophthalmic opticians practise outside the Borough. The cost of sight testing amounted to £10,938., as against £11,151 in the previous year.

The total number of sight tests given in the year was 13,613 a slight decrease over the previous year, and the total number of persons supplied with glasses (including single lenses) was 10,324. 43 cases were reported of persons instructing opticians to dispense the glasses prescribed and then failing to collect them.

The amount paid from public funds for the supply, repair and replacement of glasses amounted to £28,166 5s. 10d., of which sum £383 4s. 2d. was recovered from Local Education Committees. Charges paid by patients amounted to £16,637.

1,111 sight tests were given to children of school age and under at the Greenesfield Health Centre by the Ophthalmologist, Mr. J. S. Arkle.

D. OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

1. School Health Service and Clinics

In Gateshead, the treatment arrangements for children of school age and under have been unified so that minor ailments, ophthalmic, orthopaedic, dental and artificial sunlight treatment is available to children under 15 years of age.

For the purposes of making the survey of the local health services comprehensive, the following statistics of the annual report on the school medical services are included. School children on the register at the end of the year numbered 14,300. Of these, 4,120 were submitted to routine medical examination on entrance, at 10 years of age and on leaving. 59.7 per cent. of the parents of children examined by routine were present at the inspection. The nutrition of the children examined at school medical inspection was assessed as satisfactory in 99.59 per cent. of the children. 2,223 children attended the minor ailments clinic and 854 were prescribed spectacles for errors of refraction. The waiting list for ophthalmic investigations at the end of the year was at a negligible figure. The post of orthoptist remained vacant during the whole of the year.

At the end of the year there were three special schools under the Local Authority, the Joicey Road Open Air School with 102 children, the Cedars Special School for Physically Handicapped Children with 48 pupils attending, and the Hindley Hall Special Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Children with 60 pupils.

2. Gateshead Dispensary

In the case of the Gateshead Dispensary, a clinic for the treatment of psychosomatic conditions has been carried on by Dr. J. C. Hall, since the appointed day under the National Health Service Act. I am indebted to Dr. Hall for permission to include the following extract from his report on the work of the clinic:—

No. of patients on books during the year—37, 12 men and 25 women

No. of sessions—Day 555, Evening 303, Total 858

New patients—11 new patients admitted, 3 men and 8 women

Discharges—18 patients discharged, 8 men and 10 women

Conditions:—

			<i>Anx- iety</i>	<i>Dep- ression</i>	<i>Mig- raïne</i>	<i>Asth- ma</i>	<i>Stam- mer</i>	<i>Alope- cia</i>	<i>Tin- nitus</i>	<i>Diss. Scle- rosis</i>	<i>Total</i>
Men	..	..	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	12
Women	..	..	11	7	2	2	1	1	1	—	25
			15	14	2	2	1	1	1	1	37
<i>New Patients</i>											
Men	..	..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Women	..	..	4	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	8
											11
<i>Discharges</i>											
Men	..	..	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	8
Women	..	..	4	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	10
											18

The patients who received most benefit were those suffering from anxiety. The two migraine patients have improved, especially one who has been free from severe incapacitating attacks for 6 months. Neither of these patients has taken Ergotamine at any time during the year.

Hypnosis was used to help the patient with Tinnitus. In her own words she said it had stopped, and there has been no further communication from her”.

3. Prevention of Cancer

I am indebted to Mr. Stanley Way, F.R.C.O.G., Medical Director of the Gynaecological Research Department, Queen Elizabeth Hospital,

for the following extract from his annual report on the work of the voluntary Women's Cancer Detection Society:—

Women's Cancer Detection Society

Extract from Honorary Medical Director's Annual Report

Under the auspices of the Women's Cancer Detection Society, three weekly clinics are in action. The first to open was the clinic at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, which is held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. The first clinic here was held on the 8th September, 1964. The second clinic which opened on the 19th October 1964 was the one at Dryburn Hospital which is held on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. and the third clinic which started on the 10th November 1964 was the Bishop Auckland Hospital clinic which is held on Tuesday evenings at 6.30 p.m.

From the 8th September 1964 until the end of March 1965, the three clinics between them had examined 3,252 women of which 34 unsuspected cases of carcinoma of the cervix were detected and by accident, three cases of very obvious clinical carcinoma had also attended at these clinics.

(a) Queen Elizabeth Hospital Clinic

Attendances at this clinic have been consistently disappointing and during the six months, 684 patients (an average of 26 per week) had attended and 60% of these came from outside the normal area of referral of patients to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and 75% from outside the boundaries of the County Borough of Gateshead.

The women of Gateshead themselves seem quite unconcerned about availing themselves of these services. The General Practitioners in the Gateshead area were the first to receive the Societies' pamphlets which they distributed in their surgeries assiduously. Up to the end of March, only two patients attended as a result of this, one of these was a Doctor's receptionist and the other was her friend. The Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Gateshead distributed 2,500 pamphlets for us through her Welfare Clinics in the high parity groups and the Supervisor of Midwives and her staff have tried to influence the natives but as far as we can tell, not a single patient has come forward as a result of this. We can only conclude that the female citizens of Gateshead who are at risk in this disease, appear to be a complete "write off".

Of the 684 patients who attended the Gateshead clinic, three were found to have positive smears, all of them coming from Northumberland. One clinical carcinoma was also seen.

(b) Dryburn Hospital Clinic

Three patients attended the 1st clinic, 69 the second week and 102 the third week. This clinic has consistently run attendances averaging between 85-112 per week. Only 14% of the patients attending came from outside the normal area of referral of patients to Dryburn Hospital.

Up to the 8th March 1965, 1,187 patients had been smeared at this clinic and 13 positive smears had been detected. One clinical carcinoma was also seen.

For the convenience of staffing the clinics, it is preferred if patients make appointments. For some reason or other the Dryburn Clinic has been particularly bad with regard to making appointments but since the present attendances are consistent and not overwhelming, we have not thought it necessary to impose any restrictions on this clinic.

(c) *Bishop Auckland Hospital Clinic*

This has been the best attended and is almost an embarrassment. At the first clinic on the 10th November 1964, 87 patients attended and since that time, the numbers have never fallen below 100. The average attendance at this clinic is 130 and only 10% came from outside the normal area of referral to the Bishop Auckland Hospital.

Up to the 9th March, a total of 1,344 women had attended the clinic and 18 had been found to have positive smears. In addition, one clinical carcinoma presented itself.

During this period, we have been able to calculate the cost of collecting a vaginal smear. This cost includes equipment, payment to lady Doctors who collect the smears with travelling expenses, part depreciation on capital equipment such as illuminated speculae, also payment to one trained nurse per clinic. At the present moment, the cost of taking a vaginal smear from a single patient is 6/8d. The patients pay the stamp money for the result to be sent to herself and her family Doctor.

Up to the end of March, the cost of detecting one case of curable cervical cancer to us was £30 which appears to be a very reasonable figure.

PART III

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISEASE

A. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following summary presents the information relating to the prevalence of infectious diseases as known to the Health Department in 1964 :—

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Cases notified or otherwise known</i>	<i>Removed to isolation hospital</i>	<i>Corrected No. of cases</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Deaths in isolation hospital</i>
<i>Notifiable</i>					
Scarlet fever	107	4	107	—	—
Whooping Cough	19	2	18	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	908	5	905	—	—
Pneumonia	131	123	130	48	9
Meningococcal infection ..	2	2	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis :					
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis :					
Infective	14	14	6	1	—
Post-infective	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	92	6	79	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—
Erythral pyrexia	12	7	12	—	—
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	1	4	—	—
Dacryocystitis*	180	—	180	—	—
Suspected food poisoning ..	28	5	24	—	—
Tuberculosis :					
Respiratory	86	4	86	5	—
Meninges and C.N.S. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other	12	4	12	1	—
Infective hepatitis†	50	11	51	—	—
<i>Non-notifiable</i>					
Impetigo neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	5	5	—	—	—
Chicken pox	2	2	—	—	—
Scalp	1	1	—	—	—
Measles	9	—	—	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	42	42	—	7	3
Dysentery carriers	42	—	—	—	—
Salmonella carriers	5	—	—	—	—
Ringworm :					
Scalp	—	—	—	—	—
Body	5	—	—	—	—

*Notifiable by local regulation

†Notifiable by local regulation as from 1.3.62.

In 1964 there were 1,616 verified cases of infectious disease, as compared with 2,801 in the previous year. Although measles is reputed to be normally of biennial epidemic incidence, 1964 was noteworthy for a

fairly heavy prevalence after an epidemic in 1963. Salmonellosis, once a source of local trouble, was replaced by dysentery in the autumn when a considerable prevalence continued to the end of the year.

Virus infection does not seem to have been so widespread as in former years, but infective hepatitis continued its steady endemic prevalence.

The year was, of course, notorious for an alarm about typhoid fever in connection with canned meat, and considerable checking of local stocks of corned beef had to be undertaken. There were, however, no local cases of this diseases, which has been virtually absent from Gateshead since the public water supply was installed universally in the form of a filtered and chlorinated natural product.

On the whole, the year was very favourable from the morbidity and mortality point of view.

1. Notifiable Diseases

Scarlet Fever

Of the 107 cases notified only 4 were removed to the isolation hospital, the remainder being treated by family practitioners at home with antibiotics when necessary.

Diphtheria

There has been no case of diphtheria in the Borough since 1951, and in fact the disease virtually died out in 1947, when the natural and artificial immunisation of the community must have presented a solid defence against this disease.

Whooping Cough

There were only 18 cases of this disease, of which 2 were removed to hospital, which is perhaps one of the lowest prevalences in any recent year. This is undoubtedly a reflection of the triple immunisation of the infants and young children of the community.

Measles

There was a fairly severe and prolonged epidemic of measles from October, 1962 to August, 1963, and in these circumstances the precedent would suggest an interval of nearly a year before the onset of a fresh epidemic prevalence. In Gateshead, however, as has happened in previous years, e.g., 1948-1950, 1951-1953, 1954-1955, the usual rhythm was not manifest.

From February, 1964, an upward prevalence of measles began to give more than 50 cases per month throughout the whole of the year. The explanation of this behaviour in measles has not been found. Nevertheless, there was no mortality from the disease. As only 5 were removed to

hospital it is evident that this 1964 epidemic was quite mild and uncomplicated. In these circumstances it does not seem worth while to attempt an artificial immunisation against this disease, using a living vaccine. It is well known that the usual fatal complications of measles are fortunately susceptible to treatment with antibiotics or sulphur drugs.

Pneumonia

The amount of pneumonia treated in the hospitals and therefore coming to light is a considerable reduction on previous years. Although in the town as a whole the disease was mentioned as a cause of death in 48 instances, many of these are secondary or terminal infections.

Meningococcal Infections

There were only 2 cases of this disease which were diagnosed in hospital, where, under treatment, they made a perfect recovery.

Poliomyelitis

No case of this disease came to light during the year, again the result of the efficient local authority scheme of vaccination against the disease with the oral vaccine.

Encephalitis

14 patients admitted to hospital with possible infections of the nervous system refined on the usual diagnostic tests to only 5 cases of acute infective encephalitis, usually of the meningo-encephalitic variety, all of whom recovered. There was one other case, an infant of 2 years, who died at home from viral encephalitis, which was certified by H.M. Coroner after a post-mortem.

Dysentery

The disease, Sonne Dysentery, which is endemic in the north-east, was fairly prevalent from mid-October to the end of the year.

In the middle of October a number of children attending the Holy Trinity Day Nursery were found to have mild diarrhoea. Samples of the faeces showed a prevalence of Sonne Dysentery infection, which led to the sampling of the entire nursery population, both children and staff, a survey that was repeated in December, when there was a recrudescence of the intestinal symptoms. Altogether, eleven children were involved in the main phase of the epidemic and nine in the recrudescence in December.

Along with the actual patients who had symptoms or a history of symptoms a number of symptomless carriers or excretors of Sonne Dysentery organisms were also found, 10 nursery children and a member of the nursery staff, aged 15 years, in the first phase and 6 nursery children in the recrudescence.

The finding of both cases and carriers in the nursery population led to the sampling of their domestic contacts, to the number of 80 in 26 families. In the families associated with the nursery children who suffered from dysentery there were 6 adults, who had a history of abdominal symptoms and who were found to be excreting Sonne Dysentery organisms, together with 11 carriers who did not admit alimentary disturbance.

Both the 20 cases and the 17 carriers affected by Sonne Dysentery organisms were excluded from the nursery and supervised until the infection was eliminated, but by the end of the year there were still 3 individuals carrying the organism and submitting follow-up specimens.

In addition to the exclusion of infectious excretors among children and staff, the precautions taken in the nursery were entirely devoted to the enforcement of a strict personal hygiene, with stress on the adequate rinsing of the hands in an antiseptic lotion after excretion.

The six cases and eleven carriers who were not attending the nursery were referred to their own doctors for treatment. One contact who handled food in a bakery was suspended from work until negative specimens were obtained.

There were also 53 other cases among the community, of which three were cases of Flexner infection, limited, fortunately, to only two families, together with the more widespread infection of 31 families with Sonne Dysentery producing 50 cases and 17 carriers.

This disease is very difficult to control because of its fleeting symptomatic disturbance, the hesitation to adopt bacteriological tests and the very widespread carrier infection of the community which is never fully traced.

Enteric Fever

No cases came to light during the year.

Erysipelas

There were 4 cases, 2 aged males and 2 middle-aged females, of whom only one had hospital treatment.

Scabies

180 cases came to light during 1964, as compared with 206 in the previous year and 73 in 1962. Of these patients 45 were adults, 71 were school children and 28 younger children. 144 persons were given the standard Benzyl-benzoate treatment in the Greenesfield Health Centre, where there are baths.

Infective Hepatitis

This disease is notifiable locally, and during the year 51 cases came to light, particulars of which are given along with previous years in the adjoining table. The incidence is essentially sporadic and covers from 2

to 13 cases per month. The methods of spread are not clear. The infectivity does not include dual infection in any one household.

	1958		1959		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		<i>Sex unknown</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Pre-school children ..	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	4	1	3	1	3	2	—
5-10 years ..	5	5	16	28	23	29	43	31	30	16	7	20	7	16	—
11-15 years	3	5	11	15	13	12	11	13	10	11	5	7	2	3	—
Over 15 years	?	?	5	5	4	3	2	5(1)	9	7	8	4	7	11	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	12	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
<i>Totals ..</i>	20		34	49	52	60	56	50(1)	53	35	23	32	19	32	5

(Deaths in parenthesis)

2. Non-notifiable Disease

The incidence of the virus infections, chickenpox, mumps, rubella and glandular fever, was definitely sporadic and of little concern to public health. Gastro-enteritis, however, continued to be a fairly frequent reason for admission to the isolation hospital, and this seems to reflect, in some cases, infection with the newer viruses.

Virus Infections, 1964

The following is a list of patients from the Borough found in Sheriff Hill Hospital to be excreting viruses or have illnesses associated with viruses :—

<i>Name</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age in years</i>	<i>Date admitted</i>	<i>Virus and type</i>	<i>Specimen</i>	<i>Final diagnosis</i>
D.C.	F	8/12	13.1.64	ECHO Virus Type 14	Faeces	Upper respiratory infection
T.D.	M	3	14.1.64	Coxsackie Type B5	Bronchial secretions	Croup
C.L.	M	1.9/12	25.2.64	Poliovirus Type 2	Faeces	Tonsillitis
D.C.	F	1	29.3.64	Poliovirus Type 7	Faeces	Upper respiratory infection, Collapse of Rt. L.L.
E.J.E.	F	8/12	10.4.64	Coxsackie Type B2	Faeces	Acute chest infection with consolidation in Rt. Upper and Lower Zones.
B.O.	F	13/12	17.4.64	Adenovirus Type 3	Bronchial secretions and Faeces	Acute chest infection. Consolidation in L.L.L.
N.B.	M	2	28.4.64	ECHO Virus Type 9	Bronchial secretions	Acute chest infection: Consolidation in each L.L.
A.E.A.B.	F	1	28.4.64	ECHO Virus Type 9	Faeces	Acute chest Inf. Collapse in each L.L.
P.B.	M	3½	7.5.64	Adenovirus Type 3	Faeces	Acute chest Inf. following measles.
D.C.	F	1	10.5.64	ECHO Virus Type 7	Faeces & Bronchial Secretions	Acute tonsillitis Bilateral Otitis Media

<i>Name</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age in years</i>	<i>Date admitted</i>	<i>Virus and type</i>	<i>Specimen</i>	<i>Final diagnosis</i>
L.C.	F	3	28.7.64	Coxsackie Type A9	Bronchial secretions	Sonne Dysentery
W.C.	M	24	17.8.64	Coxsackie Type B5	Faeces	Virus encephalitis
C.R.	M	3	24.8.64	Coxsackie Type B4	Faeces	Acute bronchitis
M.B.A.	F	45	31.8.64	Coxsackie Type B5	Throat swab	Acute chest infection
B.T.	M	7/12	4.9.64	Poliovirus Type 2	Faeces	Meningitis : Chest infection
D.H.	M	3	8.9.64	Coxsackie Type B5	Faeces	Febrile convulsions
S.A.	M	2	14.9.64	Coxsackie Type B5	Faeces	P.U.O.
S.Y.	F	9/12	23.9.64	Coxsackie Type B4	Bronchial secretions and faeces	Teething problem.
A.C.	M	8	5.10.64	Adenovirus Type 5	Faeces	Glandular fever
K.J.	F	16/12	6.10.64	Adenovirus Type 5	Faeces	Wheezy bronchitis
G.K.	F	8/12	19.10.64	Adenovirus Type 5	Faeces	Bronchitis U.R. infection
L.T.	F	4	21.10.64	ECHO Virus Type 9	Bronchial secretions	D. & V. Throat infection
W.H.	M	2	23.10.64	Adenovirus Type 3	Faeces	Viral gastro-enteritis
L.B.	F	2.4/12	26.10.64	Herpes Simplex	Mouth swab	Stomatitis.
N.B.	M	16/12	26.10.64	Herpes Simplex	Mouth swab	Stomatitis.
S.A.	M	9/12	5.11.64	Coxsackie B5	Faeces	Vomiting due to hiatus hernia
C.P.	M	7/12	19.11.64	Poliovirus Type 3	Faeces	Viral gastro-enteritis
S.B.	F	8/12	25.11.64	Poliovirus Type 2	Faeces	Acute chest infection
M.J.B.	M	2/12	10.12.64	ECHO Virus Type 9	Faeces	Mild respiratory tract infection
L.M.	F	3	29.12.64	Poliovirus Type 2	Faeces	Rt. Middle Lobar pneumonia

One noteworthy feature is the admission of the child 'D.C.' on three occasions with differing conditions and with a different virus on each admission. It is also evident that the viruses are not specific in the association with clinical conditions, and clearly much more research will have to be done on this interesting group of micro-organisms.

3. Sickness Claims

Throughout the year there was a fairly steady level of the number of weekly sickness claims, the average being between 450 and 600 and the maximum level reached being 700 in the second week of January and in the middle of October.

4. Supervision of Contacts

Five salmonella carriers and 42 dysentery carriers were supervised during 1964. One ex-patient from another area, convalescent after enteric fever, was supervised until non-infectious. Three passengers returning from abroad on a ship reported to have a case of typhoid were followed up and fortunately proved to be uninfected. One man who had been in an infected area, and who had refused vaccination was supervised during a two weeks' period as a precaution against the possible development of smallpox.

Under the Public Health Acts and the associated Regulations relating to food, 4 dysentery carriers whose work involved the handling of food were suspended from duty and their wages made up to the normal level by this Corporation.

5. Infestation and Uncleanliness

The usual measures have been taken to deal with this in children by the health visitors and auxiliary nurses, while the public health inspectors' department deals with the cases of infestation of premises by vermin of various kinds.

B. SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING AND SALMONELLOSIS

The official return for 1964 in relation to food poisoning includes one outbreak as well as a number of family and individual infestations of salmonellae.

C1. Welchii

In a local hospital a number of patients suffered an attack of sickness followed by diarrhoea during the night of 8th-9th March. Routine sampling of the faeces showed that 4 patients in one ward and 10 in another ward were infected by C1. Welchii, while 4 members of the staff and 3 other patients who had suffered from the symptoms had negative faeces samples. One of the patients also produced a Sonne Dysentery organism. The symptoms in these patients were short-lived and the whole affair was over within 24 hours. It was not, however, possible to examine any of the articles of diet to find the food incriminating the outbreak. The hospital pathologist was of opinion that the hygiene of the hospital kitchen left something to be desired and that attempts were being made to cook meat in too large portions, with the result that it was not properly cooked. The hospital authorities had the further measures under attention.

Salmonella Typhimurium

(1) An infant of 3 months suffered an attack of diarrhoea on 17.3.64 and was taken to the out-patient department of a Newcastle hospital. The faeces were sampled and Salmonella Typhimurium was reported present on 25.3.64. As a result the household, consisting of the parents, three other children and the parents-in-law, were sampled with the result that one child was found to be a symptomless carrier. The incident was clearly a familial infection of a low order of virulence.

(2) On 4.5.64, a man aged 64 sickened with vomiting and diarrhoea. This persisted until 7.5.64, when he was admitted to hospital. He became dehydrated and required to be treated with intravenous salines three times in the subsequent two weeks, and was finally discharged from hospital well on 10.6.64. Two other members of the family, a son and a daughter, supplied faeces for examination, and the daughter, a dressmaker, proved to be a symptomless excretor. No evidence was found to suggest how the infection reached this household.

(3) A child, aged 4, became ill on 25.7.64, with diarrhoea. He was admitted to hospital on 4.8.64, and there his faeces revealed the presence of *S. Typhimurium*. The child lived with his parents and a brother, and all were sampled with negative results. This seems to have been a casual infection.

Salmonella Panama

A married woman, aged 54, sickened on 1st June, 1964, with vomiting and diarrhoea which failed to improve, with the result that she was admitted to hospital on 6.6.64. The faeces showed the presence of *Salmonella Panama*. The patient recovered but continued to excrete the organisms for many weeks. The patient lived with her husband and two children aged 18 and 16 years, all of whom had negative samples of faeces. There was a history in this case of the previous consumption, within 24 hours before the onset of symptoms, of a tinned steak and kidney pie. It was, however, not possible to pin-point the source of infection.

Salmonella Heidelberg

(1) A child of 8 months was admitted to hospital on 19.6.64 with convulsions, and under routine examination the child was found to be infected by *Salmonella Heidelberg*. The family, consisting of the parents and two other children were found to be excreting the causal organism, and the father had a previous history of mild diarrhoea, although the others were symptomless. This family were supervised for over a month, but gradually ceased to co-operate with the department in the provision of samples. None of the household handled food for consumption outside the household.

(2) An infant of 5 months was admitted to hospital with his mother, who suffered from a skin disease. In hospital the child suffered from diarrhoea and *Salmonella Heidelberg* was isolated from the faeces. The family, consisting of the parents and one other child, yielded negative faeces on sampling. It is possible that in this case there was a hospital cross-infection.

(3) A boy of 10 months sickened on 23.7.64 with acute abdominal pain and diarrhoea. The family doctor submitted the samples of faeces to the laboratory and these were reported to contain *Salmonella Heidelberg*. The child lived with the grandparents and aunts and these submitted specimens which were found to be negative. Clearly this was an individual infection of unknown origin.

Two other outbreaks occurring outside the area had their repercussions in Gateshead. In one, a member of a hospital staff employed outside the Borough was found in hospital, after the onset of symptoms, to be infected with *Salmonella Dublin*. The investigation of this infection was carried out in the adjoining area, where the infection arose.

Another small explosive outbreak of staphylococcal food poisoning localised to a cafe in Newcastle was investigated. Two of the staff in the

cafe were found to be nasal carriers of staphylococci and were suspended from work while under treatment until non-infectious.

Complaint was also received about a Newcastle woman being taken ill after consuming a tart made in a Gateshead Bakery. The tart was found to be heavily contaminated with *B. Coli*, and as a result attention was paid to the general hygiene in the bakery premises, which, however, seemed to be not at fault in this particular instance.

A child of 3 was notified as having suffered an attack of diarrhoea on 4.9.64. He belonged to a family of four children living with the parents, none of whom was affected. Investigations in this family were not possible because of the non-co-operation of the parents.

One *Salmonella* Heidelberg excretor was found in the contacts of a Sonne Dysentery case.

C. TUBERCULOSIS

Report of Dr. E. L. Feinmann

Consultant Chest Physician

Chest Clinic, Whinney House Hospital

The incidence of fresh cases of tuberculosis in Gateshead continues high and there has been no important change in the 1960's. Throughout this period the policy on notification has been consistent—to have notified all new cases that were treated for tuberculosis and these of course range from very advanced disease to symptomless Mantoux conversions in the infant. Nevertheless, I must continue to stress that there is a high incidence of new, advanced disease. Of the 37 cases this year with a positive sputum 29 were positive on direct examination; twenty seven of these cases were thought to have advanced or far advanced disease.

Two small *epidemics* of tuberculosis occurred during the year. One was in the most modern factory in Gateshead and over two years involved eight people. The source was probably a man who was clinically well despite advanced lung disease. Another was in a large family of small children, who over a course of six months all suffered primary infection, and only at the end of that time was one able to persuade the eldest brother, with advanced disease, to have an x-ray.

Relapses of previously known disease account for ten notifications, five of these had a positive sputum. Two cases of primary *drug resistance* occurred during the year. One was to Streptomycin only and made no difference to the patient's treatment. The other, which only produced minimal disease, was caused by the first reported infection in this town by the Atypical *Mycobacterium Kansaii*.

Once again, I would draw attention to the large number of notifications that I get from other hospitals: 28 cases. (Bensham General 4, Sheriff Hill 8, Queen Elizabeth 6, Dunston Hill 3, Royal Victoria Infirmary 1, Newcastle General 3, and Shotley Bridge 2). General Practitioners referred 38 cases direct to this clinic, 12 were found as contacts and the

Mass X-ray Unit centred in Newcastle found 16 cases. I have no doubt that one of the most valuable routine measures in the early detection of tuberculosis would be chest x-rays of all hospital out-patients and certainly of those awaiting hospital admission.

I would like to draw particular attention in this year's report to the remaining difficulties we have in the actual treatment of tuberculosis. We have been making a detailed investigation and record of the status of all the eight hundred cases on our register and although the majority have done well, about a third have had unsatisfactory treatment in the past for one reason or another. Many of these remain from the early days of drug treatment, but many represent genuine difficulties in current treatment. A report on this investigation will be published elsewhere. In the current year, eighteen of the patients treated suffered some more or less severe upset from drug treatment. In most, this was a drug allergy easily overcome. In others, particularly with Streptomycin toxicity, more serious damage was done. One patient developed severe renal failure which improved rapidly when Streptomycin was stopped. Drug intolerance compelled us to alter routine drug regimes in nine cases and we have this year started to try out a drug regime discovered by the Tuberculosis Research Unit in Madras.

Resistant Cases

The number of cases with chronic infectious disease due to resistant organisms continues to fall and at the end of the year there were only 66 cases on the register.

Contacts

The new health visitor organisation is functioning smoothly now and an increasing number of new contacts were x-rayed. Of the 779 examined 11 were found to have tuberculosis. In addition to this, notifications have been watched carefully and the M.M.R. Mobile Unit sent to three factories which have shown an unusual incidence of tuberculosis. Our static x-ray unit has been used to cover smaller places of work in which tuberculous infection has been found. An attempt is being made to increase the effectiveness of the static unit by offering routine x-rays to those trades thought to be at risk and to new entrants to industry. Several firms have taken advantage of this but so far we have not been able to tempt the publican and his staff. Every year, we have one or two cases of extensive tuberculosis amongst public house staff and this is a trade definitely at risk, and if infected a public danger.

B.C.G. Vaccinations

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to all tuberculin negative reactors among T.B. Contacts. These are mainly children and vaccination is usually readily accepted.

During the year a total of 305 contacts were vaccinated and also 22 members of the hospital staff. There have been no abnormal reactions or complications noted in any of these cases. 1 child was re-vaccinated.

Statistical Information

New notifications with morbidity rates during the recent past are as follows :—

(Deaths in parenthesis)

No. of New Cases *Incidence Rates
per 1,000 population*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>T.B. + ve</i>	<i>T.B.—</i>	<i>Both</i>	<i>Non- pulmonary</i>	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	<i>All forms</i>
1952	271(49)	84	159	243(45)	28(4)	2.12	0.24	2.36
1953	309(32)	112	155	267(29)	42(3)	2.24	0.37	2.61
1954	226(42)	86	115	201(38)	25(4)	1.76	0.22	1.98
1955	194(25)	61	105	166(23)	28(2)	1.42	0.24	1.66
1956	262(20)	94	148	242(18)	20(2)	2.1	0.17	2.27
1957	143(20)	59	66	125(19)	18(1)	1.12	0.16	1.28
1958	132(23)	59	62	121(22)	11(1)	1.11	0.1	1.21
1959	140(21)	58	66	124(19)	16(2)	1.136	0.146	1.28
1960	131(6)	42	74	116(6)	15(—)	1.068	0.138	1.2
1961	99(7)	44	51	95(7)	4(—)	0.919	0.038	0.95
1962	82(15)	35	40	75(13)	7(2)	0.727	0.067	0.79
1963	85(14)	49	27	76(13)	9(1)	0.741	0.087	0.828
1964	101(6)	37	47	84(5)	17(1)	0.825	0.166	0.99

Death rates for Gateshead were :—

P.T.	..	..	..	..	0.0491 per 1,000
O.T.D.	..	..	..	..	0.0098 per 1,000

These rates compared with those of England and Wales are as follows :—

P.T.	..	..	..	..	.047 per 1,000
O.T.D.	..	..	..	..	.006 per 1,000
All Forms	..	..	..	..	.053 per 1,000

The following table shows the total deaths and death rates for the past decade in Gateshead :—

Total Deaths :

<i>Year</i>	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	<i>All forms</i>
1954	38	4	42	0.33	0.035	0.36
1955	23	2	25	0.203	0.017	0.22
1956	18	2	20	0.16	0.017	0.177
1957	19	1	20	0.171	0.009	0.18
1958	22	1	23	0.2	0.009	0.209
1959	19	2	21	0.174	0.19	0.193
1960	6	—	6	0.055	—	0.055
1961	7	—	7	0.067	—	0.067
1962	13	2	15	0.126	0.019	0.145
1963	13	1	14	0.1267	0.0097	0.136
1964	5	1	6	0.0491	0.0098	0.0589

The age distribution of new cases and deaths is given in the appended table :—

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5 ..	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-10 ..	2	1	1	3	—	—	—	—
10-15 ..	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
15-20 ..	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
20-25 ..	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
25-35 ..	14	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
35-45 ..	7	8	1	1	—	—	—	—
45-55 ..	9	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
55-65 ..	14	4	—	—	1	—	—	1
65 and up ..	8	1	—	3	2	—	—	—
Totals ..	60	24	2	15	3	2	—	1

Statistical Information

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Total		Grand Total	
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	
A. 1. No. of notified cases of T.B. on clinic register on 1st January, 1964 ..	405	282	60	13	27	7	418	309	67	794
2. Transfers from clinics under H.M.C.'s or B.G.'s during the year. ..	5	3	2	—	—	—	5	3	2	10
3. Children transferred to adults during the year	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
4. Cases lost sight of which returned to the clinic during the year.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
B. Number of new cases diagnosed as T.B. during the year										
1. T.B. minus	25	10	12	2	9	6	27	19	18	64
2. T.B. plus	28	9	—	—	—	—	28	9	—	37
Totals of A. & B.	465	307	74	15	36	13	480	343	87	910
C. Number of cases in A. & B. written off clinic register during the year :										
1. Recovered	50	34	4	1	4	—	51	38	4	93
2. Died	13	2	—	—	1	—	13	3	—	16
3. Removed to other H.M.C. or B.G. clinics	15	12	10	—	1	4	15	13	14	42
4. Children transferred to adults during the year	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
5. Other reasons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total of C.	78	48	18	1	6	4	79	54	22	155
D. 1. Number of notified cases of T.B. on Clinic register on 31st December, 1964	387	259	56	14	30	9	401	289	65	755
2. Number of above known to have had a positive sputum within the preceding 12 months ..	38	10	—	—	—	—	38	10	—	48

	<i>Respiratory</i>			<i>Non-Respiratory</i>			<i>Total</i>		<i>Grand Total</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	
Number of persons (excluding transfers) first examined during the year	—	—	—	—	—	—	2213	2074	692	4979
Number of those in (a) who attended as contacts who were :										
1. Diagnosed as tuberculous	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	1	10	11
2. Not tuberculous ..	72	142	550	—	—	—	72	142	550	764
3. Not determined (as at 31st December, 1964)	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	4
Number of patients on clinic register awaiting admission to T.B. institution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of attendances at the clinic including contacts	9,795									

Finally, Whinney House Chest Clinic held 622 sessions during the year. At these clinics 1,521 new patients were examined and total attendances were 9,795.

E. L. FEINMANN,

Consultant Chest Physician

D. VENEREAL DISEASES

The following is the report of Dr. W. V. Macfarlane, Physician in Charge of Ward 34, Newcastle General Hospital, in respect of venereology and Gateshead patients :—

“Compared with 1962, the total number of new registrations during the past two years shows a 35 % increase, 21 % in 1963 and 14 % in 1964. This unsatisfactory state of affairs is common to the country as a whole.

Details for 1964 as follows :—

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Gonorrhoea	38	28	10
Non-gonococcal Urethritis	43	43	—
Syphilis	16	9	7
Other conditions	41	20	21
Reassurance	75	56	19
<i>Totals</i>	213	156	57

During 1964 the rise was mainly attributable to the increase in males reporting with non-gonococcal urethritis and a small outbreak of contagious syphilis in both sexes. The latter was due to an irresponsible young woman who has failed to complete her treatment and may still

be contagious. It is a remarkable fact that no legislation exists whereby such patients can be compelled to attend for treatment until free from contagion.

The ratio of males and females (3 : 1) attending with untreated gonorrhoea is similar to that for the rest of the country. The disparity lies in the difficulty in locating the female carriers of infection. Out of 28 men who attended with an untreated infection, only 10 women were identified as their contacts or alleged sources of infection”.

PART IV

WELFARE AND OTHER SERVICES

(Including the Report of the
Director of Welfare Services, Mr. J. A. Armstrong)

A. WELFARE SERVICES (Report by Director of Welfare Services)

WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairman: ALDERMAN A. CROSSLEY

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR MRS. J. H. LISTER

ALD. COLLINS	COUN. HENRY
„ HUTCHISON	„ JACKSON
„ WHEATLEY	„ JOHNSON, A.
COUN. BRADLEY	„ JOHNSON, F.
„ CARPENTER	„ MURRAY
„ CARR	„ O'KANE
„ CHAPPLE	„ REED
„ COLLIGAN	„ RYANS
„ COLLINS	„ TURNBULL
„ CONWAY	„ WATSON
„ HARLAND	„ WILD

COUN. WIND

Co-opted Members

MR. W. C. ATKINSON
MRS. B. FITZPATRICK

MRS. E. MCCLURE
MRS. H. STOREY

MISS U. WANGLIN

SUB-COMMITTEES

General Purposes

THE CHAIRMAN	COUN. HENRY
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ MURRAY
ALD. HUTCHISON	„ RYANS
COUN. CARPENTER	„ TURNBULL
„ CARR	„ WILD
„ COLLIGAN	„ WIND

Accommodation Supervisory

Comprising the same Members as the General Purposes Sub-Committee

Handicapped Persons

THE CHAIRMAN	COUN. CARR
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ COLLIGAN
ALD. HUTCHISON	„ RYANS
COUN. CARPENTER	„ TURNBULL

COUN. WILD

Co-opted Member — MISS E. MCKINLEY

Joint Consultative

THE CHAIRMAN	COUN. TURNBULL
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ RYANS
ALD. HUTCHISON	„ WILD

Special

THE CHAIRMAN	THE VICE-CHAIRMAN
ALD. HUTCHISON	

STAFF OF THE WELFARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Director of Welfare Services .. Mr. J. A. Armstrong, A.I.S.W.,
M.W.I.

Administrative and Welfare

Chief Clerk Mr. M. McKenna
Social Welfare Officers:
 (Aged Persons) Mr. R. Johnston
 (Aged Persons) Mrs. M. English
 (Deaf Persons) Mr. R. Hall
 (Blind Persons) Miss J. Weatherston
 (Handicapped Persons) .. Mr. G. Sweeney
Assistant Welfare Officer .. Mr. J. Skelton
Assistant Welfare Officer .. Mrs. R. Dacey
Assistant Welfare Officer .. Miss J. Boynes
Administrative Assistant .. Mr. J. Coates
Shorthand Typist Miss J. Rutherford
Clerk/Copy Typist Miss D. Burnell
Clerk/Telephonist Miss B. Lowes
Aged Persons Organiser .. Mrs. J. O. Shield

Residential Homes

Fountain View Aged Persons' Hostel

Matron Miss K. M. Moore, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Beacon View Aged Persons' Hostel

Cook/Housekeeper Mrs. M. Hume

Bircholme Aged Persons' Hostel

Cook/Housekeeper Mrs. M. Healy

Holly House—Temporary Accommodation

Caretaker Mr. J. Bewick

Assistant Caretaker Mrs. N. Bewick

Handicraft Centre

Holly House Social Centre for Handicapped

Handicraft Instructor Mr. Davey

Assistant Handicraft Instructress Miss J. Moore

In addition there are 84 full time and 9 part-time staff employed on attendant, domestic and maintenance duties at the various establishments.

Residential Homes

Accommodation is provided in the County Borough for those who by reason of age, infirmity, or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them. (This does not include sick persons who require constant nursing care or treatment in Hospital).

The number of persons accommodated at the beginning and end of the year, together with the number of admissions and discharges, are given in the table below:—

<i>Own Homes</i>		<i>Resident at 1.1.64</i>	<i>Admissions including re- admissions</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Transfer to Hospital</i>	<i>Other reasons</i>	<i>Resident at 31.12.64</i>
Fountain View	.. ..	256	217	44	40	112	277
Beacon View	.. ..	15	13	—	5	7	16
Bircholme	.. ..	16	17	—	4	10	19
		287	247	44	49	129	312

**Classification of Residents in Local Authority Residential Homes
as at 31st December, 1964**

		40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90 over	Total
Fountain View	.. ..	7	19	28	117	98	8	277
Beacon View	.. ..	—	—	—	7	9	—	16
Bircholme	.. ..	—	—	—	10	9	—	19
Total	.. ..	7	19	28	134	116	8	312

Health Classification of Residents in Residential Homes

				<i>Fountain View</i>		<i>Bircholme</i>		<i>Beacon View</i>		<i>Total</i>
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>		
Aged (not materially Handicapped)				50	68	9	6	4	137	
Blind				2	8	—	—	1	11	
Deaf				4	4	4	1	1	14	
Epileptic				3	3	1	—	—	7	
Other Physically Handicapped				18	33	5	1	1	58	
Mentally Handicapped				36	49	—	—	—	85	
<i>Total</i>				113	165	19	8	7	312	

Residential Accommodation—Analysis of Admissions

Direct Admissions

(a) *Formerly living independently—*

(1) in own homes as tenants or owner occupier .. 75

(2) in private lodgings .. 3

(b) *Formerly living with relatives (whether as the householder or not) and—*

(1) home overcrowded .. 2

(2) presence causing domestic discord .. 3

(3) relatives incapable of continuing to give necessary care .. 9

From Other Areas .. 19

Transfer from Hospital and originally admitted to Hospital from—

(1) Residential accommodation .. 49

(2) Own home—(living independently) .. 9

(3) Private lodgings .. 2

(4) Relatives home or own home, where cared for by relatives .. 6

Short Stay Cases .. 22

Compulsory Removal Cases—Section 47 .. 1

Amenities Available to Residents

As far as possible, every endeavour is made to make the Hostels as near real homes as practicable. Recreation facilities, newspapers and periodicals are provided and a library service is available, for which thanks are due to the Public Library Services.

Residents are provided, if it is their wish, with suitable clothing and receive comforts such as sweets and tobacco or cigarettes. Facilities exist for religious worship and residents are encouraged to use the Home as if it were their own and feel free to visit and be visited by friends.

In the course of the year a number of concerts, weekly film shows and other forms of entertainment have been given at the Homes. Thanks are due once again to members of various organisations and local individuals for the great interest shown.

Particular regard must be paid to the regular weekly service provided by the Womens Voluntary Services in the sale to residents at Fountain View of all manner of articles which from time to time they desire. The profits from these sales being used for the provision of additional amenities. Additionally the Womens Voluntary Services and the Rotary Club have organised outings.

Charges for Maintenance—Residential Homes

The costs of maintaining residents in the various homes is calculated at the end of each financial year to a weekly "standard charge" representing the amount to be paid by residents having income over the statutory limit laid down by the National Assistance Regulations.

Residents who have less than this statutory figure are assessed to pay smaller amounts but the minimum charge for maintenance during 1964 was £2 14s. 0d. per week deducted from a basic pension or allowance. Each resident is enabled to retain at least 13/6d. per week for personal needs.

The full cost of maintenance in the Local Authority Homes for the period was £8 11s. 11d. per week.

Ordinary Residence

The National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 24, provides that the Local Authority liable to provide residential accommodation is the one in whose area the person requiring such accommodation is ordinarily resident. A person who has no settled residence or, being ordinarily resident in the area of another Local Authority, is in urgent need of residential accommodation, the Authority in whose area he then is, is to provide the accommodation. In the latter event arrangements are entered into for the recovery of maintenance costs from the Authority of ordinary residence.

By agreement with other Local Authorities, financial responsibility is accepted for the maintenance of residents as follows:—

**Residential Accommodation provided by other Local Authorities
for Gateshead Cases**

<i>Authorities</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Middlesex County Council ..	1	—
Cumberland County Council	—	1
	1	1

TOTAL — 2

**Residential Accommodation provided on behalf of other Local Authorities
by Gateshead**

<i>Authorities</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Durham County Council ..	5	9
Northumberland County Council	1	1
North Riding of Yorkshire County Council ..	1	—
London County Council ..	—	1
City of Leeds	1	—
	8	11

TOTAL — 19

Temporary Accommodation and Rehabilitation of Homeless Families

The Welfare Services Department is responsible for providing such accommodation for persons in urgent need, being need which has arisen through no fault of their own and which could not reasonably have been foreseen or such other circumstances which may be decided.

Details of families accommodated during the year are as follows:—

	<i>Families</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Holly House</i>					
Accommodated 1st January, 1964	7	7	7	23	37
Admissions during period ..	7	4	7	20	31
Discharges during period ..	8	6	8	28	42
Accommodated 31st December, 1964 ..	6	5	6	15	26

Domiciliary Welfare Services of Elderly Persons—General

The general welfare of elderly persons in the Borough has received the continuous attention of the Department. Social Welfare Officers are always available to visit, advise and help elderly people in their own homes. They provide a link between Statutory and Voluntary Services and any elderly person in difficulty is encouraged to contact the Welfare Services Department.

Co-operation with Voluntary Organisations Interested in the Welfare of the Aged

A further awakening to the needs of the aged amongst the Voluntary Organisations has made itself apparent and the work of the Old People's Welfare Standing Committee is rapidly increasing in co-operation with the Statutory Authority.

Considerable progress is being made with the establishment of Old People's Welfare Committees in each district and financial and other help. In addition members of the Statutory Authority and Officers of the Welfare Services Department are serving in active capacities on the Voluntary Committees. New Old People's Clubs are being established by the District Committees and a street warden scheme has been established in one district.

Both the Statutory Authority and the Voluntary Organisations are particularly keen to develop this side of their work and an Organiser has been appointed within the Welfare Services Department to further this work.

Clubs for Elderly Persons

The Darby and Joan Clubs in the Town continue to provide a most valuable means of enabling our old folks to enjoy social contact, entertainment, recreation and companionship. There is no doubt that facilities such as these assist to no small extent in defeating and preventing loneliness with its subsequent hardships.

The vast majority of the Darby and Joan Clubs are self-supporting but the Welfare Services Committee does from time to time grant financial assistance particularly upon the setting up of a new Club.

Aged Persons' Register

Registrations at 1st January, 1964..	..	..	3,402
New Registrations .. .. .	..	..	220
			<hr/>
			3,622
Deaths and Removals out of Area .. ..	..	..	292
			<hr/>
Registrations at 31st December, 1964 .. ..	..	..	3,330
			<hr/>

Progress with this Register has reached its peak with the staff available to prepare and continue to maintain the visiting level. Any further extension of this Register would require additional Social Welfare Staff.

Meals on Wheels Service

The delivery of meals through the Meals on Wheels Service is providing a useful supplementary form of visiting and has brought friendship into the homes of the aged through the medium of the volunteers. It has also enabled the Department to have first hand information of

any change in circumstances requiring attention. Particular tribute is paid to those ladies of the W.V.S., British Red Cross and Townswomens Guild for their help during the year.

Additional assistance by way of transport, either by the provision of additional vans or private cars, is still needed as the demand continues to increase.

Ordering of meals and decisions as to recipients are arranged by the Welfare Services Department and the Social Welfare Officers are constantly alert to ensure the best possible use is made of the arrangements.

A total of 15,594 meals was provided during the year ended 31st December, 1964 and this exceeded the 1963 total by 6,716. Deliveries are now made on five days per week, Monday to Friday, and the reduced cost to recipients is 1/-d. per week. Many persons are now receiving two meals per week and in some cases even more. It is generally found that at week-ends relatives or friends are able to assist in the provision of meals for the aged persons by private arrangements.

Luncheon Clubs

During the year arrangements were made for bulk delivery of meals through the Meals on Wheels Service to the Claremont Old People's Club on Thursdays of each week. Volunteers from the Claremont District Old People's Welfare Committee are on hand to serve the meals. The Director of Welfare Services is responsible for providing the necessary liaison in the service to ensure the best possible use being made of the arrangements.

The supply of meals at the Club has shown a steady increase during the year and the total numbers supplied during the year were 1,312.

Pre-Paid Post Card Service

Arrangements have continued during the year with the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and the National Assistance Board Officers, together with the appropriate Local Authority Officers, for the distributing of pre-paid post cards to aged persons. The post card draws attention to the various welfare services which are available in the area and requests that should the recipient be interested, would he or she please put their name and address on the card and post it, no stamp being necessary.

It is also pointed out that even though there may be no particular problem at the moment, the card should be retained for use if at some future time the service can be of help.

OTHER SERVICES

Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention to Hospital or Residential Accommodation

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, empowers the Local Authority to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an

Order to remove compulsorily to suitable premises the following:—

- (a) persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from any other persons, proper care and attention.

It was unfortunately necessary to use the powers contained in Section 47 once during the year. A number of cases were brought to the attention of the Department but it was possible to persuade them to enter hospital or residential accommodation voluntarily.

Burials

Arrangements were made by the Department for 8 funerals under the duties laid upon the Authority to bury or cremate the body of any person who has died or been found dead in the Council's area, where it appears that no suitable arrangements have been made or are being made.

Opportunity was taken to obtain reimbursement of the expenses involved or as much thereof as possible by claim upon insurance, death grants, etc.

<i>Year Ended</i>	<i>Number of Funerals</i>	<i>Gross Cost</i>	<i>Amount Recovered</i>
31.12.64	8	£114 10s. 0d.	£86 10s. 0d.

Care and Protection of Property

The Welfare Services Committee is responsible, under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the protection of moveable property of persons admitted to Hospital or residential accommodation where it appears that there is danger of loss or damage and no other suitable arrangements have been made.

The first step in arranging for the safeguarding of property is to ascertain whether any relative is prepared to accept responsibility for its safe custody, and if not, then it becomes the duty of the Department to take necessary precautions. The action to be taken varies according to circumstances but normally it includes ensuring that the premises in which the property is housed are properly secured, notifying the Police of persons' absence, making an inventory and removing money and valuables for safe custody.

The Department dealt with 12 cases during the year and in 322 instances arrangements were made for relatives of friends to assume responsibility and to indemnify the Corporation.

Receiverships

It was not necessary to make application for the Borough Treasurer to be appointed Receiver of income of persons deemed to be temporarily unable to manage their own affairs. Several persons however were given information and advice regarding affairs of their relatives and friends who had been admitted to hospital and where management of affairs was under consideration.

Welfare of the Blind

Registration and Other Statistics

Statistics concerning the blind are collated on a regional basis and are drawn up by Local Authorities or Societies. The figures are analysed according to age groups, sex, cause of blindness, age at onset of blindness, occupation and other points of interest. As a result of this and the fact that there is a financial incentive to register, the available information concerning the evidence of blindness is of quite a different order of accuracy than that relating to any other disability.

A summary of details prepared on the 31st December of each year is shown in the various tables below.

Register

Number on Register at 1st January, 1964	235
Number examined and Certified Blind ..	19
Number transferred from Other Authorities	2
	<hr/>
	256
Deaths	19
Transferred to other Authorities	5
Decertified	2
	<hr/>
	230
	<hr/>

Classification of Registered Blind Persons

	Male	Female	Total	Age Groups	
<i>Children under 16 years</i>					
Educable	2	3	5	5—	
Uneducable	—	—	—	5 15+	5
<i>Employed Blind Persons</i>					
<i>Workshops for the Blind</i>					
Basket Workers	5	—	5	21-39	3
Mattress Makers	3	—	3	40-49	5
Brush Makers	2	—	2	15 50-59	4
Mat Makers	4	—	4	60-64	1
Firewood Workers	1	—	1	65 over	2
<i>Open Industry</i>					
Fitter and Assembler	1	—	1	16-20	1
Shopkeeper	1	—	1	21-39	1
Telephone Operators	2	—	2	7 40-49	2
General Labourer	1	—	1	50-59	2
Shorthand Typist	1	—	1	60-64	1
Miscellaneous	1	—	1		
<i>Undergoing Training</i>					
For Sheltered Employment	—	—	—		
For Open Industry	—	—	—		
<i>Unemployed but capable of and available for work</i>					
<i>Already Trained</i>					
Sheltered Employment	1	—	1	30-39	1
Open Industry	—	—	—	250-59	1
<i>Without Training</i>					
In Open Employment	1	—	1		

Blind Persons in Residential and Hospital Accommodation

	Male	Female	Total
Fountain View	3	11	14
Other Homes	—	1	1
Hospital for Mentally Ill	1	2	3
Hospital for Mental Sub-Normal	1	3	4
	5	17	22

Blind Persons Registered as New Cases (Excluding Recertifications and Transfers from Other Areas) During the Year—18 Persons

Age at Date of Registration												90	Total
	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	Over		
Male	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	5	
Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	2	—	13	
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	3	1	18	

Age at onset of Blindness												90	Total
	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	Over		
Male	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	5	
Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	1	—	13	
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7	2	1	18	

The Ophthalmologist has examined 22 new cases during the year with the following results:—

Certified Blind	14
Certified as Partially Sighted	2
Not Certified	6

Registration

The number of Registered Blind Persons in age groups for the last ten years are as follows:—

	Under					Total	Male	Female
	21	21-49	50-65	65-69	Over 70			
1955	7	41	62	31	131	272	121	151
1956	10	41	61	27	133	272	122	150
1957	10	39	59	30	136	274	118	156
1958	10	41	53	36	127	267	115	152
1959	8	36	54	35	122	255	115	140
1960	7	34	62	24	120	247	101	146
1961	9	35	63	25	114	246	100	146
1962	9	31	53	26	120	239	94	145
1963	7	30	54	24	120	235	95	140
1964	7	27	48	22	126	230	89	141

Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons

	<i>Cause of Disability</i>			
	<i>Cataract</i>	<i>Glaucoma</i>	<i>Retrolental Fibroplasia</i>	<i>Others</i>
(1) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. F of Form B.D.8 (Rev. 1957) recommends				
(a) No treatment	—	—	—	9
(b) Treatment (Medical, surgical, or optical)	6	1	—	4
(2) No. of cases at 1(b) above, which on follow-up action received treatment	3	1	—	3

Home Teaching and Home Visiting Service

The regular visiting of registered blind has been maintained and the service has been augmented by Welfare Assistants to undertake the less complex duties thereby allowing the qualified Officer to concentrate knowledge, skill and experience to the best possible advantage for those requiring special training and attention.

907 Visits were made during the year.

Overcoming Disability

In assisting newly blind persons to overcome the effects of their disability the Social Welfare Officer helps to ease the shock and demonstrate ways in which normal activities can be continued to a greater or lesser degree. Arrangements are made for Ophthalmic examinations and advice on the financial and other benefits available is given. The possibility of social or industrial rehabilitation is also considered.

Instruction in Handicrafts and Simple Diversionary Occupations

Classes have been held at the Social Centre, Prince Consort Road, on two afternoons per week and features include handicrafts, embossed literature, talking book, concerts, games and the provision of light refreshments at every session.

Voluntary Society and Special Grants and Assistance

Various Voluntary Associations have given special grants and assistance covering deserving cases.

National Library for the Blind

The Welfare Services Committee contributes on a percapita basis towards the provisions of a library service in braille or moon embossed type. 26 Blind persons take advantage of the service.

Holidays, Hostel Accommodation, etc.

Blind persons and guides so desiring enjoy holidays at special homes for the blind, The Haven, Scarborough, and Craven Lodge, Harrogate, throughout the season.

Holiday grants contributing towards the cost of holidays were available from the Newcastle and Gateshead Voluntary Society for the Blind.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The Ministry of Labour is responsible for arranging for blind persons to undertake a course of industrial rehabilitation and it is standing procedure for representatives of the Ministry and the Welfare Services Department to confer on the employment prospects of individual cases, so as to eventually ensure the best possible placement in employment.

Workshops for the Adult Blind

The main provision of sheltered employment for blind persons in the Tyne Area is by way of occupation in the Workshops, Whickham View, Newcastle upon Tyne. 14 Blind persons from Gateshead are employed at the Workshops which are administered by a Joint Management Committee.

A variety of trades are followed and include basket work, brush making, mat making, etc. It is significant that in almost all respects the standards and output compare favourably with the national average.

Financial assistance towards the cost of maintaining the Workshops facilities and towards the cost of improvements, alterations and new machinery, is apportioned between the constituent local authorities, Newcastle upon Tyne, Gateshead, South Shields and Northumberland County Council.

Welfare of the Partially Sighted

The number of persons Registered as Partially Sighted as at 1st January, 1964, are as follows:—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1964	60
Number of cases examined and certified ..	3
Transferred from Other Authorities ..	2
	<hr/>
	65
Deaths	5
Transferred to Other Authorities ..	1
Certified Blind	6
Decertified due to improved vision ..	1
	<hr/>
	52
	<hr/>

Classification of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

					Male	Female	Total	Age Groups		
<hr/>										
<i>Persons near and prospectively Blind:</i>										
Employed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Undergoing training	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	{
Unemployed—capable of work	—	—	—		50-64	6
not capable of work	..			..	6	21	27	65 Over	21
<i>Persons mainly industrially Handicapped:</i>										
Employed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	{	16-20
Undergoing training	—	—	—		21-49	3
Unemployed—capable of work	..			..	2	3	5	{	16-21
									21-49	4
not capable of work	—	1	1		21-49	1
<i>Persons requiring observation only:</i>										
Aged 16 and over	..	..	..	..	5	8	13		16-20
									21-49	
									50-64	
									65 Over	
<i>Children aged 5 and under 16:</i>										
Educable .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	2	2		
<i>Children under 5:</i>										
Educable	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
							<hr/>			
							52			
							<hr/>			

Follow-up of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

					Cause of Disability			
					Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(1) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. F. of Form B.D.8 (Rev. 1957) recommends								
(a) No Treatment					—	—	—	—
(b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical)					—	—	—	3
(2) Cases at 1(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ..					—	—	—	3

Welfare of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The following changes in the Register of the Deaf have taken place during the year:—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1964	208
New Registrations	2
Removals into Area	1
	211
Deaths	6
Removals out of area	3
	202

Classification of Registered Deaf Persons

	Under 16		16-64		65 Over		Total		Accum. Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Deaf without Speech	7	—	26	27	10	7	43	34	77
Deaf with Speech ..	6	6	8	8	—	2	14	16	30
Hard of Hearing ..	2	—	17	23	26	27	45	50	95
	15	6	51	58	36	36	102	100	202

Assistance in Securing Employment

Generally, it can be said that deafness does not incapacitate to the same extent as other disabilities but it does bring its own special problems. There is no provision for sheltered employment as no need for this has ever been demonstrated, relatively few of the deaf are unemployed. On the other hand, their placement and maintenance in employment is not achieved without a great deal of effort on the part of the Welfare Officer concerned who works in close co-operation with the Ministry of Labour Disablement Resettlement Officers and the Youth Employment Service.

Work placements were found for 15 persons during the year and analysis of placings is as follows:—

Job	Male	Female	Total
Steam Presser	2	—	2
Hand Sewer	—	2	2
Machinist	1	2	3
Labourer	2	—	2
Packer	—	1	1
Assembler	—	1	1
Tailoress	—	1	1
Warehouseman	1	—	1
Clerk	—	1	1
Fitter	—	1	1
	6	9	15

Practical Assistance

Many occasions arise when deaf people need the services of an interpreter to assist them with the more complex events of daily life, ranging from interviews of official or private business to help in domestic worries. In common with hearing people, they need advice on problems which occur even more so because of their limitations in certain ways.

The services of the Social Welfare Officers are always available to help the deaf lead full and useful lives.

Unlike the true deaf many of the hard of hearing grow up with normal hearing and are more able to maintain contact with the hearing world, particularly since the provision of hearing aids through the National Health Service,

The Social Welfare Officer is always available to give advice and instruction. He encourages self help, the practice of lip reading and use of hearing aids and advises on employment and other difficulties.

Welfare of Physically Handicapped Persons (General Classes)

Under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Council is charged with the duty to maintain a register of Physically Handicapped Persons who may be in need of assistance. Amongst other things it has the responsibility to help persons to overcome any disability with advice or guidance, the promotion of social and recreational activities and practical assistance in the home by the provision of special appliances or adaptations to the structure.

The following changes in the Register have taken place during the year:—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1964	107
Removals into Area	3
New cases Registered	69
	<hr/>
	179
Deaths	3
Removals out of Area	1
	<hr/>
	175
	<hr/>

Classification of Registered Persons

The classification of Registered Persons is as follows:—

Epileptics	13
Disseminated Sclerosis	17
Spastic	12
Polio	15
Parkinsonians	6
Accidents and Injuries	28
Heart and Respiratory Condition	18
Arthritic and Rheumatic	17
Others	49
	<hr/>
	175
	<hr/>

Home Visiting

The regular visiting of the Physically Handicapped has been maintained and the service has been augmented by the engagement of Assistant Welfare Officers to undertake the less complex duties.

821 Visits were made during the year.

Adaptations

The Welfare Services Committee are authorised to incur expenditure in the adaptation of houses occupied by disabled persons by providing handgrips and handrails to outside steps and indoor staircases. Grips have been fitted in bathroom and in toilets the height of the toilet seat

has been raised. Much of the adaptation work, however, is connected with laying down runways, pavement crossovers and garage sites for the storage of motorised and other invalid carriages.

Holly House Handicapped Persons' Centre

The need for the full time opening and development of the Centre received high priority during the year. With the appointment of an Occupational Therapist and Assistant and the purchase of a new purpose built vehicle for the conveyance of handicapped persons, the Centre, which was previously open only on Monday and Thursday afternoons, was opened full time for five days each week from September, 1963.

For many handicapped persons the opportunity to participate in the activities of the Social Centre is a prime need in order that they can not only find social companionship together with diversional occupations but also receive instruction and assistance in overcoming the effects of their handicaps and in performing their daily activities.

The great majority of handicapped persons attending the Centre take advantage of the mid-day meals service and the demand continues to rise.

The numbers attending the Centre have steadily increased to a level which the Centre was not designed to accommodate. The staff have been under considerable pressure in order to accommodate the ever increasing numbers of persons attending the Centre but the tasks have been cheerfully undertaken in an attempt to spread the facilities to as many as possible.

B. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)

Six cases were referred to the Medical Officer of Health for possible action under the above Act.

Information as to the cases was received from the family practitioner, health visitor, welfare officers and a relative.

In two cases the necessary certificate under the National Assistance Act was issued (one certificate under the Amendment Act), and as a result one case was removed to Fountain View Welfare Hostel on a court order and the other entered the hostel voluntarily.

Of the remaining four cases, 2 were admitted to hospital, one entered the hostel voluntarily and one remained at home under supervision.

C. EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

There are 8 known epileptics among the pre-school children.

Among the school children there are 2 epileptics having special education in a residential school and 28 who are attending ordinary school. There are 4 epileptic mentally defective children, all ineducable, who are not at school at all.

So far as adolescents and adults are concerned, it appears that 22 spastics are registered as disabled, of whom 2 men and 3 women are known to be unemployed. 1 man attended a course at Felling Industrial Rehabilitation Unit. 37 males and 29 females are registered as disabled because of epilepsy. During the year 6 male epileptics were placed in employment but 8 men are still registered as unemployed.

The position in regard to "spastic" persons is that in the pre-school population there are 11 known cases.

Among the school population 19 are known and 13 are having education in the "Cedars" Special School. 5 are having education in the Percy Hedley School and 1 attends the Open Air School.

D. PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933

During the year ended April, 1965, 14 persons were registered for the sale of poisons listed in Part II of the Poisons List, and these were supervised on behalf of the Council by the Pharmaceutical Society's Inspector.

E. SUPERANNUATION ACTS

86 persons (55 males and 31 females), were examined for new appointments with the Gateshead Local Authority. Four males and one female were examined on behalf of other authorities. One male was examined by another authority on behalf of Gateshead.

Under the Manual Worker's Scheme, 173 persons (150 males and 23 females) were examined for inclusion in this scheme. One man was examined for extension of service.

Six people were examined after application by them to be retired on the grounds of ill-health and 7 were examined after various periods of sickness to ascertain their fitness to continue at work.

F. FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLY

Some progress has been made in eliciting opinions from most of the authorities using water derived from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company sources, who have decided in favour of fluoridation as recommended by the Ministry of Health. One large authority, however, has not yet come to a decision and the matter is therefore to be regarded as still sub-judice.

PART V**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA****Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector—G. Charlton**

The two outstanding public health events of 1964 were undoubtedly the Aberdeen Typhoid Outbreak and the coming into operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. The typhoid outbreak was a very pointed reminder to the complacent that no relaxation in the enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations could be permitted, and exemplified the need to have a fully trained staff available for such emergencies. It also illustrated the value of having a mobile staff, as the inspectors were able to visit all the food shops in the borough in a very short time, to ascertain the whereabouts of the suspected corned beef, which was immediately withdrawn from sale.

Although the coming into operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 was well publicised, the response to the requirement to register premises was most disappointing. As the result of the poor response, it was necessary to carry out a check survey to ascertain which of the premises not registered came within the scope of the Act. This delayed progress somewhat and it was consequently not possible to carry out the general inspections until the very latter part of the year. Details of the work under the Act are to be found in the report.

Good progress was again maintained in the clearance of unfit properties, and at the end of the year 1,978 houses were at some stage of clearance procedure. Enthusiasm in this aspect of the work was, however, rather dampened by the difficulties experienced in the house building programme. A shortage of land, labour and materials all contributed to a reduction in the number of new houses being completed, which in turn affected the rehousing of tenants from unfit properties.

Work on other aspects of housing was continued and many unfit properties dealt with by demolition and closing orders. Many houses in multi-occupation were also brought up to standard, in an endeavour to control this problem.

100% meat inspection at the slaughterhouse was again carried out, although a reduction in the number of animals slaughtered resulted in less overtime having to be worked.

Work in connection with the Clean Air Programme was also resumed and two Orders were submitted to the Minister for confirmation during the year.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support and co-operation throughout the year, and also to Dr. Grant for his advice and assistance.

A. WATER SUPPLY

An adequate supply of pure, wholesome water was maintained throughout the year by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

The sources of supply are a large catchment area and reservoirs in Northumberland and the River Tyne.

After receiving filtration and chlorination treatment, the water is distributed to part of the town directly from mains and also pumped to two service reservoirs at Beacon Lough and Carr Hill, which supply the higher areas of the town.

Work on the reconstruction of the Carr Hill reservoir was continued throughout the year without interruption to the supply.

The Water Company's statements as to the quantity of water in store each month show:

Minimum of 2,536 million gallons in November.
Maximum of 5,245 million gallons in April.

The monthly average of 3,990 million gallons in store was slightly less than in 1963.

During the year, 17 samples were taken and submitted for chemical analysis and all samples were reported as satisfactory.

18 samples were also submitted for bacteriological examination. One sample was reported as unsatisfactory but a check sample taken a few days later proved satisfactory.

The following is the report of the Public Analyst on a sample submitted in November, when the reservoir supply was at its lowest.

<i>Chemical</i>					<i>Parts per million</i>
Total Solids dried at 180°C.	..	..	..	..	135
Chlorine as chlorides	..	..	..	..	14
Free ammonia	..	..	..	..	0.12
Albuminoid ammonia	..	..	..	..	0.10
Nitrogen as nitrates	..	..	..	..	0.40
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 27°C.)	..	..	..	..	2.40
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	73
Non-carbonate hardness	..	..	..	..	33
Carbonate hardness	..	..	..	..	40
Lead and copper	..	..	..	..	None
Iron	..	..	..	..	None
Appearance and colour (Hazen degrees 5)	..	..	..	..	Satisfactory
Smell and Taste	..	..	..	..	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit	..	..	..	..	Satisfactory
pH value	..	..	..	..	6.9
Residual chlorine	..	..	..	..	None

REPORT

This sample of water is of satisfactory organic purity, it is of good colour and is free from deposit, odour or taste.

This water is pure and wholesome and is suitable for a public supply.

(Signed) W. GORDON CAREY

B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1. Except for prospective new housing estates, arrangements for sewerage are reasonably adequate. The question of Sewage Disposal Works for the whole of the Tyneside is at present being considered by the Tyneside Sewage Disposal Committee.

2. New sewerage schemes are necessary for prospective new housing sites in South Gateshead in the Allerdene/Harlow Green areas.

3. New schemes are:—

- (a) Beacon Lough East Sewer—about to commence.
- (b) Harlow Green Sewers—in design stage.
- (c) Harlow Green to Low Fell Station Sewer—in pre-design stage.

C. PUBLIC CLEANSING

The following report on the work of the Cleansing Department for the year is kindly supplied by Mr. L. Collins, M.INST.P.C., A.M.I.T.A., A.R.S.M.:—

The environmental health services in the County Borough of Gateshead are performed by 230 employees of the Transport & Cleansing Department.

The work of this staff is divided amongst the various sections of the organisation as follows:—

- Administrative and Supervisory personnel
- Technical staff
- Drivers
- Refuse Collection operatives
- Street Cleansing orderlies
- Public Convenience mobile attendants
- Refuse Disposal workers
- Miscellaneous workers

In addition to the Public Cleansing fleet of vehicles, the Department maintains the transport, plant and equipment operated by other Departments of the Corporation as indicated in the following schedule:—

<i>Transport & Cleansing Department</i>	<i>Units</i>
Vans— 7 cwt. 	9
Vans— 8 cwt. 	3
Vans—15 cwt. 	4
Vans—30 cwt. 	5
Vans—Box 	2
Pick Up Vehicles 	3
3 ton Tipping Vehicles 	4
5 ton Tipping Vehicles 	6
Refuse Collection Vehicles 	22
Gully Emptiers 	2
Mechanical Sweepers 	2
Tower Wagons (Automotive) 	3
Tower Wagons (Electric—pedestrian controlled) 	1
Sewer Flusher (600 gallon tanker) 	1
Personnel Carrier 	1
Estate Cars 	3
Saloon Cars 	2

Transport & Cleansing Department

Units

Road Rollers	2
Mechanical Shovels	2
Mobile Crane (5 tons)	1
Mobile Crane (Breakdown vehicles)	1
Vibratory Roller	1
Trailer for Vibratory Roller	1
Compressors	2
Tools for Compressors	12
Concrete Mixers	3
Street Orderly Trucks (Electric)	9
Street Orderly Barrows	12
Weed Spraying Unit	1
Trailer—Low Loader	1
Automatic Gritters	4
Hand Fed Gritters	4
Storm Brush (Rotary trailer)	1
Tractor (Bulldozer	1
Scraper (4 cu. yd.)	1
Tin Baling Press	1
Paper Baling Presses	2
Pumps (1—3" Mud Pump and 2—2" Pumps)	3
Drilling Machine	1
Electric Saw	1
Planer	1
Lathe	1
Steam Cleaner	1
Hoists	2
Air Compressor	1
Mechanical Stoker	1
Mess Cabins (Refuse Tips)	2
Sheds for Tractors	2

151

Parks Department

2 tons Tipping Vehicle	..	..	..	..	..	1
Agricultural Tractors	..	..	..	..	..	3
Trailers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gang Mowers	..	..	..	..	..	16
Power Driven Agricultural Machines	..	..	..	..	..	77
Playground Units, <i>i.e.</i> Swings, Slides, Jungle Jim, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	85
Miscellaneous, <i>i.e.</i> Hand operated machines, tools, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	16

200

Health Department—Ambulance Service

Ambulances .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Air Compressor Units	..	..	..	..	..	2

20

Education Department

Personnel Carriers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Canoe Trailers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Power driven Agricultural Machines				..	..	..	4
Hand Operated Mowers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Hand Operated Leaf Lifter	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

10

<i>Welfare Services Department</i>							<i>Unit</i>
Ambulance	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mini-Van	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							<hr/> 2
							<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Police Department</i>							
Saloon Cars	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Vans	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Motor Cycles	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
							<hr/> 11
							<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Civil Defence Department</i>							
Vehicles—all classes		..	..	..	..	..	8
Trailers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
							<hr/> 10
							<hr/> <hr/>

The following is a brief record of activities in relation to the environmental health services during the period under review:—

1. Refuse Collection Service

(a) Trade Refuse

Section 74 of the Public Health Act 1936 provides that a Local Authority, may, at the request of the owner or occupier of any premises, remove therefrom any refuse which they are under no obligation to remove, or may carry out such removal more frequently than they are under obligation to do, and they may make such charge as they think fit.

It will be seen therefore that the removal and disposal of Trade Refuse from business premises is not a service to which ratepayers are entitled in return for the payment of rates.

However, recognising the need for a Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal service, the Corporation has established service for which the following scale of charges is applicable:—

- (i) For the collection and disposal of Trade Refuse contained in standard dustbins, *i.e.* $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. capacity — 1/-d. per bin per collection.
- (ii) For the collection and disposal of Trade Refuse contained in Bulk Containers of $1-1\frac{1}{4}$ cu. yd. capacity—5/6d. per container per collection.

Note: Both the above rates are subject to 25% discount in respect of the domestic content of such refuse.

- (iii) For the collection and disposal of Trade Refuse which is not contained in an approved receptacle, the charge is at cost, *i.e.* vehicle time, labour and administration costs.

- (iv) For the disposal of Trade Refuse delivered to Corporation Tips on permit, the following charges apply:—

For vehicles of up to 1 ton carrying capacity — 2/6d. per load.

For vehicles from 1 to 4 tons carrying capacity — 5/-d. per load

For vehicles over 4 tons carrying capacity — 7/6d. per load

At the present time, the Department operates three refuse collection vehicles which are equipped to lift 1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cu. yd. capacity Bulk Containers as well as accommodate refuse from standard dustbins, and they are fully committed.

(b) Salvage

“Salvage” is the term applied to the paper and/or fibreboard content of Trade Refuse for which there is a market available if the material is clean, free from contraries, and baled in types suitable for pulping.

At the present time the market is restricted. Nevertheless the Department continues to operate a collection service free of charge, provided that:—

- (i) The “Salvage” is kept separate from other Trade Refuse.
- (ii) Cartons are collapsed and folded.
- (iii) The material is kept dry.
- (iv) Sufficient quantities of the “Salvage” are produced to justify the transport and labour costs involved in collection and disposal.

Otherwise, the materials are classified with other Trade Refuse and collection and disposal charged for in accordance with the scale.

At the present time, two Box Vans are operating on this service. The indications are however that the volume of packing materials used is increasing so that the question of salvage recovery is under constant surveillance.

(c) Domestic Refuse

The aim of the Department is to provide a once weekly collection service for all dwelling units in the County Borough area.

The winter of 1963/64 was not particularly hard so that the refuse collectors were able to meet full requirements. Only during brief periods following Bank Holidays were refuse collection rounds in arrears.

The Corporation’s activities in the re-housing of many of Gateshead inhabitants has greatly affected the refuse collection service. Continuous re-organisation has been necessary of the sections covering the western half of the town where many of the old dwellings have been demolished, and new multi-storey buildings have been or are being erected,

With regard to multi-storey dwellings, a thrice weekly refuse collection service is provided.

It is interesting to note that refuse collectors made approximately 2,000,000 calls on domestic premises during the year and collected 40,000 tons of refuse from approximately 35,000 receptacles in use.

(d) *Extraordinary Refuse*

Under this heading, the Department provides a service for the collection and disposal of garden refuse, unwanted furniture, and debris of all descriptions for which the normal refuse collection service was not intended. A charge is therefore made in accordance with the aforementioned scales in respect of Trade Refuse.

During the period under review, 770 loads of this material were collected and deposited at Corporation Tips.

12. Refuse Disposal

During the period under review, the Department obtained tipping rights at Beggar Wood, Consett Road, and the preparation of the site is in progress.

The acquisition of another site is under negotiation. This will eventually provide space for a number of years tipping, and alleviate many of the Department's problems in this connection.

The recorded tonnages of refuse disposed of during the year were 250,280 tons of which 311 tons were salvaged and produced a revenue of £2,817.

13. Street Cleansing

Under normal conditions, the Department employs 14 vehicles on Street Cleansing, *i.e.*:—

- 2 Gully Emptiers
- 9 Pedestrian controlled Electric Trucks
- 1 Side-loading Refuse Collection vehicle
- 1 Suction Sweeper
- 1 Mechanical Sweeper

The total labour force is 47 men. The mileage of streets which require to be cleansed at regular and pre-determined intervals is approximately 660 miles in the County Borough area.

Litter dispersal is a serious and continuous nuisance in the area despite the installation of additional receptacles at known trouble spots. The Litter Act provides for penalties in the case of contravention by any person observed depositing litter on a public street, but conditions do not appear to have reached the desired standard.

4. Public Conveniences

During the period under review, authority was obtained to demolish the Conveniences in Prince Consort Road, and replace these with a new building in Cenotaph Gardens.

There are 30 Conveniences in the County Borough area. These are serviced daily by a mobile team. Those Conveniences which are subject to heavy usage are cleansed twice daily.

Free access is now provided to Wash Rooms.

D. PUBLIC BATHS

The following report, with respect to the facilities available as public swimming baths and warm baths, is kindly provided by Mr. R. A. Cameron, Baths Manager.

The Gateshead Baths Department is comprised of two establishments, Mulgrave Terrace Baths opened in 1890 and Shipcote Baths opened in 1942. Each of these has a swimming pool of the following dimensions and capacity:—

		<i>Size</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Mulgrave Terrace	..	81' 0" x 30' 0"	3' 3"—5' 6"	270 sq. yds.	60,000 gals.
Shipcote	.. ..	.. 100' 0" x 40' 0"	3' 6"—8' 6"	440 sq. yds.	140,000 gals.

At Mulgrave Terrace Baths there is also a suite of 20 warm baths.

The water in the swimming pool is purified by re-circulation through sand/gravel pressure filters. The Break Point Chlorination Process is employed to sterilise the water in which a free chlorine residual of between 1.0 and 2.0 parts per million is maintained. The free chlorine forms at least 75 per cent. of the total chlorine.

Both swimming pools are heated by steam fed calorifiers and pool temperatures maintained at 78°F and 75°F in winter and summer respectively.

Admissions to the two establishments were as follows:—

			<i>Public Swimming</i>	<i>Clubs</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Fireman & Police</i>	<i>Hot Baths</i>
Mulgrave	..	..	49,412 }				
Shipcote	..	..	102,327 }	28,465	70,534	987	24,271

E. HOUSING

416 new houses were provided during 1964. All were built by the Local Authority.

These houses, together with others which became vacant and available for re-letting, were used to rehouse 420 families from clearance areas, 22 families from houses subject to individual Orders and 159 families from the General Needs List.

Housing accommodation provided since 1945 is summarised as follows:—

1. House provided 1945-1963 inclusive		
(a) Built in Gateshead by Local Authority ..	5,224	
(b) Built outside Gateshead by Local Authority ..	480	
(c) Provided by Felling U.D.C.	1,065	
	<hr/>	6,769
(d) Provided by North Eastern Housing Association:—		
In Gateshead	214	
Outside Gateshead	473	
	<hr/>	687
2. Houses provided during 1964		
(a) Built in Gateshead by Local Authority ..		416
		<hr/>
Total for 1945-1964		<u>7,872</u>

Overcrowding

As a result of a check, by post, of the families on the General Needs List, the number of applicants on the list was reduced to 4,723.

An Examination of the points awarded to each case and the size of accommodation required by each family suggests that approximately half of the applicants are, in fact, living in overcrowded conditions to a greater or lesser degree. The remainder accounts for a considerable number of applications from people who, though not overcrowded, are seeking other and better accommodation.

It is also found that a considerable proportion of the applicants are living in houses which will eventually be included in clearance areas.

There is no accurate record of the number of families who are overcrowded, but the families rehoused from the General Needs List are chosen, with very few exceptions, for this reason.

Thus, there is a continual reduction of overcrowding, whatever the total numbers may be.

Unfit Housing

(a) Clearance Areas

The following Compulsory Purchase Orders were confirmed during the year.

Area			No. of Unfit Houses	No. of Families
Askew Road (No. 2)	..	..	351	334
Orton Street	..	..	28	28
Leopold Street	..	..	76	76
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			455	438
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Public enquiries were held to deal with two Orders. One of these is previously mentioned as Leopold Street. The Second Order is:

<i>Area</i>	<i>No. of Unfit Houses</i>	<i>No. of Families</i>
Argyle C.P.O.	513	510

Confirmation of this Order is awaited.

The following areas were represented as clearance areas.

<i>Areas</i>	<i>No. of Unfit Houses</i>	<i>No. of Families</i>
Sunderland Road No. 2	180	178
Sunderland Road No. 3	68	68
Sunderland Road No. 4	7	9
Sunderland Road No. 5	4	3
Clasper	408	409
Redheugh No. 1	8	8
Redheugh No. 2	125	125
Rock Cottages	7	7
Spenser Street	8	8
Teams No. 3	13	13
Teams No. 4	76	72
Pensher Street and Cross Row ..	42	42
Park Road	47	47
Beech Street	17	17
	<hr/> 1,010 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,006 <hr/>

Individual Unfit Houses

Demolition or Closing Orders were made in respect of 73 houses occupied by 70 families.

Of these 70 families plus 6 remaining at the end of 1963, 39 families were rehoused during 1964.

Demolition of Unfit Houses

385 houses within clearance areas and 28 houses subject to individual orders were demolished during 1964.

All demolition is carried out by contractors, and the work is kept under observation.

During the year, there were no serious complaints regarding demolition work, which was carried out quickly and competently.

Review of Slum Clearance

This being the last report which will bear the name of Dr. J. Grant, Medical Officer of Health, it is considered an appropriate time to review the progress of slum clearance in the Borough, because of the persistence with which Dr. Grant has pursued this problem of public health during his years of office.

The following table shows the clearance areas dealt with during the pre-war years.

Table "A"

<i>Year</i>	<i>Areas Represented for Clearance</i>					<i>Order Confirmed</i>	<i>Unfit houses in area</i>	<i>Families in area</i>
1930	Barn Close					1932	167	661
1931	Hillgate No. 1						48	140
1932	Bridge Street					1933	4	4
	Church Street					"	5	14
	Hillgate No. 2					"	12	43
1933								
1934	Pipewellgate Areas (Nos. 1-5)					1934	46	85
	Bottle Bank (Nos. 6-7)					"	35	63
	Old Fold Nos. 22A, 22B, 22C and 22D					"	43	50
	Dun Cow Yard					1935	20	46
	King William Street					"	22	56
	Derwentwater Road					"	7	10
	Atkinson Terrace					"	3	7
	Paper Mill Square					"	15	15
1935	Howes Court					1936	8	14
	Easton Street					"	54	100
	Rhubarb Terrace					"	8	13
	Leonards Court					"	61	134
1936	Garden Street					1936	10	17
	Atkinson Terrace					"	9	12
	Annie's Terrace					"	14	14
	Southend Terrace					"	20	20
	Raglan Terrace No. 1					"	7	12
	Raglan Terrace No. 2					"	21	24
	Oakwellgate					"	4	3
	Ship Lane					1937	82	84
	Wrekenton Row					"	9	9
	Mulgrave Terrace					"	12	39
	Scott's Row					"	14	21
	Victoria Street					"	5	4
	Ellison Street					"	14	14
1937	Nelson Square					1937	39	119
	Quarryfield Road					"	37	40
	Walker Street					1938	13	32
	Walker Street					"	76	134
	Shuttles					"	7	14
	Blue Quarries					"	12	18
	Blue Quarries					"	4	4
	Blue Quarries					"	51	67
	Springwell Road					"	4	4
	Springwell Road					"	7	9
	Lowery's Square					"	24	23
	Old Fold					"	47	47
	Grosvenor Street					"	4	17
1938	Ellison Square					1938	28	53
	Ann Street					"	11	20
	Ann Street					"	18	36
	Charles Street					"	65	108
	Grahamesley Street					"	35	98
	Busy Burn					1939	4	4
	Glasshouse Yard					"	16	23
	Carr Hill Farm					"	7	7
	Warburton House					"	3	3
	Boundary Houses					"	22	33
	High Street, Wrekenton					"	10	15
	King Pit					"	10	11
	Park Lane					"	74	186
<i>Totals</i>	64 Clearance Areas						1,407	2,853

The following table shows action taken and progress made in the clearance of unfit areas during the post-war years.

Table "B"

<i>Year</i>	<i>Areas presented for clearance</i>	<i>Order Con- firmed</i>	<i>Unfit houses in area</i>	<i>Families in area</i>	<i>Unfit houses dem- olished</i>	<i>Families re- housed</i>
1955	Chandless No. 1 and No. 2 ..	1956	794	922	—	—
1956	Melbourne Street No. 1 ..	1957	27	51	12	78
1957	—	—	—	—	149	450
1958	Ellison Street No. 1 } Ellison Street No. 2. } Ellison Street No. 3 } Easton Court } Melbourne Street No. 2 ..	1959	33	40	367	226
	Saltmeadows	1959	15	30		
	Hawks Cottages	1960	41	28		
	Backfield Street	1960	21	20		
	St. James Road/Railway Tce. ..	1960	18	18		
	Chow Dene Bank } Chow Dene Grove } Belle Vue Bank } Edmund Place } Cross Keys Lane } Lowery's Lane } Weathercock Lane } Sodhouse Bank No. 1 } Sodhouse Bank No. 2 } Springfield Place ..	1960	43	39		
	Teams No. 1 } Teams No. 2 } East Street	1960	21	21		
	Ellison Street No. 4 ..	1960	25	24		
1959	Wylam Street	1960	25	18		
	Tinn Street/Prospect Terrace ..	1960	15	18		
	Liddell Terrace	1960	25	19	250	168
	Bensham Road	1960	6	6		
	Walker Street	1961	168	165		
	Derwentwater Road No. 1 } Derwentwater Road No. 2 } St. Cuthberts Road ..	1960	6	6		
	Askew Road	1960	2	2		
	Forster's Cottages	1961	231	238		
1960	St. James Square No. 1 } St. James Square No. 2 } Sunderland Street ..	1962	50	53		
	Parkin's Buildings	1962	36	44	122	117
	Borough Houses	1962	13	21		
	Pine Street	1962	14	14		
	Askew Road No. 2	1962	16	14		
	Orton Street	1962	417	393		
	Argyle	1962	76	74		
1961	Leopold Street	1962	9	8		
	Sunderland Road No. 1 } Sunderland Road No. 2 } Sunderland Road No. 3 } Sunderland Road No. 4 } Sunderland Road No. 5 } Clasper	1962	18	18	174	196
	Redheugh No. 1	1962	51	51		
1962	Redheugh No. 2	1963	80	77	175	604
	.. ..	1963	8	9		
	.. ..	1963	4	13		
	.. ..	1963	10	11		
	.. ..	1964	351	334		
	.. ..	1964	28	28		
1963	.. ..	Awaited	513	510	823	498
	.. ..	1964	76	86		
	.. ..	Awaited	380	366		
1964	.. ..	Awaited	180	178	385	420
	.. ..	"	68	68		
	.. ..	"	7	9		
	.. ..	"	4	3		
	.. ..	"	408	409		
	.. ..	"	8	8		
	.. ..	"	125	125		

Year	Areas presented for clearance				Order Con- firmed	Unfit houses in area	Families in area	Unfit houses dem- olished	Families re- housed
1964	Rock Cottages	..	..	..	..	7	7		
	Teams No. 3	..	..	..	..	13	13		
	Teams No. 4	..	..	..	..	76	72		
	Spenser Street	..	..	..	..	8	8		
	Park Road	..	..	..	..	47	47		
	Pensher Street	..	..	..	..	42	42		
	Beech Street	..	..	..	..	17	17		
Totals	62 Clearance Areas	..	..	..		4,651	4,777	2,457	2,757

Clearance of unfit houses during the post-war years has been supplemented by the application of Demolition or Closing Orders for the years shown as follows:—

Table "C"

Year	No. of houses subject to Demolition Orders, Closing Orders and Undertakings		No. of Families	Families rehoused during year by Local Authority	Houses demolished during year
1945	1	5	—
1946	5	9	—
1947	10	9	—
1948	73	86	—
1949	44	43	—
1950	27	26	—
1951	50	65	—
1952	55	60	—
1953	82	72	—
1954	50	51	32
1955	82	97	54
1956	50	76	89
1957	87	104	18
1958	45	37	63
1959	40	55	93
1960	40	41	17
1961	28	30	39
1962	40	37	25
1963	29	27	40
1964	73	70	28
			911	1,000	498

In addition to the 498 houses shown demolished, 237 others, subject to Orders, have been demolished within clearance areas.

Rent Act, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from 3 tenants.

In one case an undertaking was received and in the two remaining cases a Certificate of Disrepair was granted for some only of the items mentioned in the tenant's notice.

The following table shows the action taken in respect of all applications made under the 1957 Act.

<i>Certificates of Disrepair</i>	<i>Total to 31.12.63</i>	<i>Total 1964</i>	<i>Total at 31.12.64</i>
Applications received	406	3	409
Work completed before expiry of form J. ..	22	—	22
Undertakings received from Landlord ..	276	1	277
Certificates issued	88	2	90
Decisions not to issue Certificates	20	—	20
	406	3	409
Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	32	4	36
Certificates cancelled or invalidated	57	6	63

Rent Act, 1954

Certificates outstanding 31.12.63	20
Certificates cancelled 1964	4
Certificates outstanding 31.12.64	16

Housing Act, 1961-1964

Houses in Multiple Occupation

It was estimated by the survey carried out in 1962 that there were 90 houses in multiple occupation in the Borough, 10 of which were brought up to standard during 1963.

Progress has been made in dealing with the more permanent of these properties, because some will be included in the clearance programme and during the year 18 have been demolished as part of a road improvement scheme.

During 1964, a further 19 houses were brought up to standard, following the service of notices, and in two other instances notices were withdrawn when the number of families in the houses was reduced to one.

The additional facilities provided in the 19 houses referred to are as follows:—

	<i>Provided by L.A. in default</i>	<i>Provided by owner</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sink, bench and water supply	11	47	58
Ventilated food stores	20	61	81
Baths	1	4	5
Hot Water supply	2	13	15
Water closets	3	6	9
Cooking appliances	3	23	26
Wash-hand basins	—	7	7
Lighting and Ventilation (extra windows)	1	6	7
Artificial lighting	1	1	2
Cleansing and decoration of common staircases, passages and rooms	—	6	6

F. 1. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The first essential for carrying out the efficient sanitary inspection of an area is an adequate and well-experienced, qualified staff. Fortunately, in spite of a serious national shortage of Public Health Inspectors, a full establishment was maintained throughout the year, which enabled the work to be continued without interruption.

One of the students was successful in passing the first examination for the new diploma for Public Health Inspectors, and was subsequently appointed as District Inspector to assist with the extra duties resulting from the administration of the Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act, 1963, and the speeding up of the Clearance Programme. The other student also successfully passed the intermediate diploma examination and was thus able to assist in the work of the department.

The continued clearance of unfit houses in the Borough is having an effect on the work of the department in that much less time is having to be spent in attending to the many complaints of defects and nuisances associated with old property.

As a consequence, the staff are now able to spend more time on other important aspects of the work, such as food hygiene, offices and shops inspection, food and drugs sampling, houses in multi-occupation and the administration of the many other Acts, Regulations and Orders coming within the purview of the department.

2. Complaints received and dealt with during the year

Of the complaints received

972 related to general matters
621 related to absence of water supply to houses
442 related to infestations by rodents
34 related to defective or absence of dustbins

The total of 2,069 complaints were dealt with appropriately.

3. Statement of Notices Issued and Complied With

The following table shows the number of notices served upon owners, agents and tenants requiring the abatement of nuisances and repairs to dwellings, drains, sanitary conveniences and the provision of dustbins from the year 1945 to the end of 1964

	<i>Total from 1945-1963</i>	<i>Total for year 1964</i>	<i>Total to 31.12.64</i>
INFORMAL NOTICES			
<i>Housing, Public Health and Corporation Acts</i>			
No. of notices issued	25,108	439	25,547
No. of notices complied with	22,106	480	22,586
No. of notices superseded by statutory action	2,137	6	2,143
No. of notices cancelled	629	43	672
No. of notices outstanding	236	—	146

	<i>Total from 1945-1963</i>	<i>Total for year 1964</i>	<i>Total to 31.12.64</i>
STATUTORY NOTICES			
(1) <i>Housing Acts 1936-57, Section 9</i>			
Notices served	2,019	2	2,021
No. of Notices complied with by owners ..	906	9	915
No. of notices carried out in default..	1,089	1	1,090
No. of notices cancelled	13	—	13
No. of notices outstanding	11	—	3
(2) <i>Housing Act, 1961, Section 15</i>			
No. of notices served	6	18	24
No. of notices complied with by owners ..	2	10	12
No. of notices carried out in default..	4	3	7
No. of notices outstanding	—	—	5
(3) <i>Public Health Act 1936-61, Sections 17, 39, 45, 83 and 93</i>			
No. of notices served	397	99	496
No. of notices complied with by owners ..	333	77	410
No. of notices carried out in default..	—	22	22
No. of notices cancelled	31	1	32
No. of notices outstanding	33	—	32
(4) <i>Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75</i>			
No. of notices served	1,591	18	1,609
No. of notices complied with by owners ..	1,017	15	1,032
No. of notices carried out in default..	564	9	573
No. of notices outstanding	10	—	4

4. Summary of Inspectors' Visits and Inspections

Public Health Acts

Infectious Diseases	495
Nuisances	648
Water Supply	368
Drainage	921
Stables and Piggeries	63
Offensive Trades	44
Tents, Vans and Sheds	83
Refuse Disposal	263
Infested Premises	317
Public Conveniences	44
Schools	14
Hairdressers	3
Places of Entertainment	138
Miscellaneous	612
	<hr/> 4,013

Housing Acts

Closing and Demolition Orders ..	490
Slum Clearance.. .. .	4,567
Overcrowding	11
Houses in Multi-occupation	793
Repairs and Rent Acts	361
Defects and Repairs	4,011
	<hr/> 10,233

Food and Drugs Act

Meat Inspections	1,022
Food Inspection	171
Shops Inspection	2,149
Stalls and Vehicles	129
Cafes and Restaurants	244
Fish Fryers	68
Dairies and Milkshops	271

Food and Drugs Act

Ice cream shops and factories	..	163
Food Factories	.. ..	231
Public Houses	.. ..	32
Knackers Yard	.. ..	42
Food sampling	.. ..	326
Food poisoning	.. ..	55
Slaughterhouse	.. ..	786
		<hr/> 5,689

Factories Act

Factories	502
Outworkers	.. ..	10
		<hr/> 512

Miscellaneous Acts

Clean Air Act	.. ..	2,765
Prevention of Damage by Pest Act	..	662
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	.. ..	702
Diseases of Animals Act	.. ..	511
Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act	.. ..	21
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act	..	3
Pet Animals Act	.. ..	32
Noise Abatement Act	.. ..	15
Shops Act	.. ..	57
Merchandise Marks Act	.. ..	4
		<hr/> 4,772

Total Inspections 25,219

Total Visits .. 24,105

5. Notifiable Infectious Diseases

495 visits were made for the purpose of investigating cases of infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer, and reports as to the conditions found were made.

55 visits were also made during the investigations carried out in connection with suspected food poisoning cases.

6. Offensive Trades and Knackers Yards

The following offensive trades, duly authorised for the purpose, are operating in the town.

- 1 Edible fat and tallow melter
- 1 Fat melter
- 1 Hide and Skin Depot
- 2 Marine store dealers

44 visits were made to these premises to ensure they were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The licensed Knackers Yard at Blackwall, South Shore Road, was taken over in July by Messrs. Tyneside Butchers' By-products Limited. The premises were thoroughly overhauled and improved by the new occupier and have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

7. Factories Acts 1937-1961

There are 439 factories on the register required to be kept by the District Council, in accordance with Section 8 (5) of the Act of 1961,, which has been revised after comparison with the list of factories kept by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Of the total of 439, there are 410 factories in which mechanical power is used and 11 without mechanical power. There are also 18 other premises, etc., in which Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Local Authority.

The following list shows the various trades carried on in the factories..

<i>Type of Business</i>					<i>With Mechanical Power</i>	<i>Without Mechanical Power</i>
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	30	2
Printers	..	..	..	..	12	—
Motor Engineers	..	..	..	..	57	—
General Engineers	..	..	..	..	66	—
Electrical Engineers	..	..	..	..	23	—
Tailoring—Clothing	..	..	..	..	20	—
Laundries	..	..	..	..	5	—
Monumental Masons	..	..	..	..	2	—
Boot and Shoe Repairing	..	..	..	..	12	—
Upholstery, Bedding, etc.	..	..	..	..	16	—
Joinery	..	..	..	..	34	3
Plumbing	..	..	..	..	3	1
Foodstuffs	..	..	..	..	35	1
Glass, etc.	..	..	..	..	7	1
Warehouses	..	..	..	..	7	—
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	81	3
<i>Totals</i>	..	..	..	..	410	11

Defects and contraventions found during the course of inspections were readily remedied by the factory occupiers upon their attention being drawn to such, and in 37 cases written notices were sent to the occupiers.

Notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of 88 factories in the Borough, relating to matters requiring the attention of the District Council, under the provisions of Part I of the Act of 1961, received attention with satisfactory results.

(1) *Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health*

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecution</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	410	478	34	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	18	2	—
<i>Totals</i>	439	502	37	—

(2) *Cases in which defects were found*

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found</i>			
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>	
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	37	41	—	8
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	—	—	—	—
	38	42	—	8

There were no cases in which prosecutions were instituted.

Outworkers—Part VIII of the Act, Sections 133 and 134

There were no notifications received of factories in the Borough employing outworkers.

The names and places of employment of 8 outworkers within this district, employed by the occupiers of two factories outside the Borough, were notified by two councils of other districts.

There were 3 outworkers on the register for the earlier part of the year and 5 for the latter part.

The places of employment of all outworkers, which were in all cases at their homes, were visited and no contraventions of this part of the Act were found.

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)(2)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing Apparel (making, etc.)	5	—	—	—	—	—

8. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The administration of the above Act commenced on the 1st May, 1964, when the sections relating to the registration of premises, applications for fire certificates and exemptions came into force. The period prescribed for registration was from the 1st May to 31st July, 1964.

On the 1st August, 1964 the remainder of the Act came into force, except for the section relating to first-aid and the Minister's report to Parliament.

At the end of July it was quite apparent that registration was far from complete, and a check survey was therefore carried out to ascertain which of the premises not registered came within the scope of the Act. In many cases the Act did not apply, but in those cases where registration was necessary a form O.S.R.1 was left for the occupier to complete.

Many of these forms were returned, but it may not be possible to determine whether registration is absolutely complete until all premises in the Borough have been inspected. The increasing amount of redevelopment and clearance taking place also makes it difficult to maintain up-to-date records.

By the end of 1964, 64 offices, 65 retail shops, 1 wholesale warehouse and 2 catering establishments had received a general inspection. The majority of the premises inspected fell short of the requirements of the Act in some respect, but most of the infringements were found in offices and those shops to which the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 did not apply. The principal contraventions were lack of cleanliness and inadequate lighting of sanitary conveniences, absence of wash-hand basins or running hot water to existing basins, absence of thermometers, first-aid equipment and clothing accommodation.

Ninety-one informal notices were served on the occupiers of premises, requiring their attention to the infringements of the Act and it is expected that most of the works required will be completed informally.

No applications for exemptions from the provisions of the Act relating to overcrowding, temperature, sanitary accommodation or the provisions of running water to washing facilities were received up to the end of the year, and only two minor accidents were reported.

The following tables give the prescribed particulars included in the Annual Report to the Ministry of Labour.

Table A
Registration and General Inspections

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises Registered during the year</i>	<i>Total No. of Regd. Premises at end of year</i>	<i>No. of Registered Premises Receiving General Inspection during year</i>
Offices	200	200	64
Retail Shops	455	455	65
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	30	30	1
Catering Establishments open to Public, Canteens	96	96	2
Fuel Storage Depots ..	2	2	—
<i>Totals</i>	<i>783</i>	<i>783</i>	<i>132</i>

Table B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises 696

Table C

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<i>Class of Workplace</i>							<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,003
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,948
Wholesale Depts., Warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	341
Catering Establishments open to Public	..	..	..	..	..	..	697
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Fuel Storage Depots	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
<i>Total</i>							5,002
<i>Total Males</i>							1,602
<i>Total Females</i>							3,400

9. Shops Act, 1950, Sections 37-39

57 visits were made to shops under the above Act prior to the repeal of Sections 37 to 39 by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Matters receiving attention were sanitary conveniences, ventilation and lighting, means of refuse disposal and general cleanliness.

10. Places of Public Entertainment

138 visits were made to places of public entertainment to examine the premises prior to the issue of certificates as to the sanitary condition for the annual licensing.

Only minor defects were noted in a number of premises and these were promptly remedied by the occupier.

11. Atmospheric Pollution

Measurement of Pollution

The amount of atmospheric pollution was again recorded throughout the year by the two instruments operating at the Public Health Inspector's Department and the Wrekenton Health Centre.

The results obtained at the Department show a further decrease in the amount of pollution, which can only be attributed to the large scale demolition of houses in the northern part of the town, as no appreciable change has taken place in either the amount or type of industrial plant operating in the area. There has, however, been a further reduction in the number of steam locomotives operating from the Greenesfield Sheds.

In comparison, it will be seen from the tables that very little change in the amount of atmospheric pollution has taken place at Wrekenton. This is due to the fact that the area is, as yet unaffected by smoke control orders, it is purely an area of domestic dwellings and it is subject to a high degree of dispersal.

The following tables show the daily average of concentration of smoke and sulphur dioxide in micro-grammes per cubic meter, as recorded at both sites during 1962, 1963 and 1964.

Public Health Inspector's Department, Nelson Street

				<i>Smoke</i>			<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>		
				1962	1963	1964	1962	1963	1964
January	..	..	..	200	166	208	239	212	107
February	..	..	..	216	273	207	215	229	116
March	..	..	..	190	264	174	187	214	106
April	..	..	..	119	105	116	169	162	85
May	..	..	..	129	152	95	141	155	79
June	..	..	..	105	117	112	198	137	69
July	..	..	..	96	81	90	103	93	62
August	..	..	..	113	197	98	128	127	76
September	..	..	..	116	136	123	133	107	75
October	..	..	..	201	172	179	162	131	93
November	..	..	..	260	242	193	195	157	204
December	..	..	..	353	357	184	296	135	166
Average per day	..	..	..	175	189	148	180	155	103

Health Centre, Wrekenton

				<i>Smoke</i>			<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>		
				1962	1963	1964	1962	1963	1964
January	..	..	..	—	—	62	—	—	63
February	..	..	..	—	128	50	—	35	73
March	..	..	..	—	79	59	—	52	65
April	..	..	..	—	80	48	—	54	61
May	..	..	..	—	50	25	—	53	48
June	..	..	..	—	40	36	—	40	69
July	..	..	..	—	49	32	—	36	36
August	..	..	..	—	43	36	—	30	33
September	..	..	..	59	41	40	21	32	39
October	..	..	..	87	48	77	28	48	66
November	..	..	..	124	61	79	29	62	68
December	..	..	..	—	77	126	—	64	105
Average per day	..	..	..	90	63	56	26	66	61

This instrument went into operation in September, 1962, but unfortunately was out of commission during December and January.

Smoke Control Areas

The following four smoke control orders are in operation in the Borough:

<i>Area</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>No. of Premises</i>		
		<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Barn Close No. 1	.. 10.75	232	56	288
Chandless No. 2	.. 32.34	643	67	710
Central No. 3	.. 38.14	230	211	441
Wylam No. 4	.. 24.00	81	57	138
<i>Totals</i> ..	.. 105.23	1,186	391	1,577

The Wrekenton No. 5 Order, comprising 1,330 premises, including 1,260 dwellings and covering an area of 137 acres, was submitted for confirmation to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in February, 1963, but was not confirmed owing to the shortage of supplies of open fire gas coke. The Order was later revoked and withdrawn by the Council with the consent of the Minister.

Two further Orders, No. 6 (Harlow Green) and No. 7 (Wrekenton) were made during the year and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

No. 6 (Harlow Green) covers an area of 232 acres, which is at present under development for housing purposes and will eventually contain approximately 1,000 dwellings. This Order was confirmed by the Minister and will come into operation on the 1st July, 1965.

The No. 7 Order, which is part of the area of the above revoked No. 5 Order, covers an area of 87.90 acres and contains 819 premises, including 799 dwellings. This Order has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and confirmation is awaited.

Surveys of two further areas, covering an acreage of 220.8 acres and involving 666 premises, including 584 dwellings, were in progress at the end of the year.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, notices of intention to install new furnaces in industrial and other premises were received in respect of:—

- 3 boilers with low ram stokers
- 6 boilers with underfeed stokers
- 4 boilers hand fired using coke
- 6 boilers with gas fired furnaces
- 10 boilers with oil fired furnaces
- 2 smokeless incinerators

In addition, prior approval was given in respect of three oil fired boiler installations.

G. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies

The last two pasteurising plants in the town were taken over by large firms during the year, and the premises are now used solely as distribution centres. Like so many other industries, the milk industry is

falling into the hands of a few major firms and this is having an effect on sampling technique.

Milk from the larger processing plants is distributed over a much wider area and the quality and purity can be checked by all the local authorities in the areas supplied. The increasing amount of bulked milk retailed also eliminates the value of testing for *Brucellus Abortus*, T.B. and Anti-biotics. As a result of these changes, the number of samples has been greatly reduced.

In contrast to the reduction in processing plants, the distribution of milk continues to be carried out by the many small shopkeepers and distributors. During the year, 17 persons were registered as milk distributors under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 and the distribution of milk within the Borough now takes place from the following sources.

Milk Retailers

Producer retailers from outside Borough	..	..	..	1
Retailers distributing from premises outside Borough	..			5
Retailers distributing from premises within Borough..	..			9
Shops retailing milk	..	..	..	353

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960-1963

The following licences, issued under the above Regulations were in force during 1964 and remain valid until the 31st December, 1965.

Dealers' licences to retail sterilised milk	..	..	..	332
Dealers' licences to retail pasteurised milk	..	..	..	117
Dealers' licences to retail untreated milk	..	..	..	75
Dealers Pasteurisers' licences	..	..	..	—

During the year, 6 licences were issued authorising the sale of pre-packed designated milk.

Quality and Purity

42 samples of milk (4 formal and 38 informal) were taken for chemical analysis and 4 were reported as not genuine. Details of these samples are shown in the Food Sample Table.

The average fat content of the 42 samples was 3.83 per cent and the average solids non-fatty were 8.74 per cent, which is slightly above the average for the region.

All samples submitted for the phosphatase test were again satisfactory and only three samples failed the methylene blue test.

The following summary shows the total number of samples taken and submitted for the prescribed tests under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960-1963.

1. Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	..	..	123
2. Phosphatase Test	..	..	..	..	..	87
3. Turbidity Test	..	..	..	..	..	6
4. Brucella Abortus Test	..	..	..	..	..	12
5. Anti-biotics Test	..	..	..	..	..	27
						<u>255</u>

Results of Tests

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>Appropriate Test</i>	<i>No. Exam- ined</i>	<i>No. Satis- factory</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>No. Invalid</i>
Pasteurised	Methylene Blue	87	86	1	—
	Phosphatase	87	87	—	—
Sterilised	Turbidity	6	6	—	—
Untreated	Methylene Blue	36	34	2*	—
	Brucella Abortus				
	Biological	12	10	1†	1
	Anti-biotics Assay	27	27	—	—
		255	250	4	1

* The two unsatisfactory samples were from suppliers outside the Borough and the appropriate authorities were notified.

† The sample of untreated milk found to be positive Brucella Abortus was from a herd outside the Borough. Immediate steps were taken by the Medical Officer of Health to enforce heat treatment of the milk and this condition remained in force until the herd was certified clear.

Ice Cream

Bacteriological Examination

22 samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue grading test with the following results.

Grade 1	..	..	..	..	17
Grade 2	..	..	..	..	1
Grade 3	..	..	..	..	—
Grade 4	..	..	..	..	4

One unsatisfactory sample was from a manufacturer outside the town and the authority concerned was notified.

The other three unsatisfactory samples were taken from a retail shop and the cause of failure found to be due to improper cleansing of the dispensing equipment.

Ice Cream Premises

Premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream at the beginning of the year	4
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream at the beginning of the year	396
Premises added to the register in 1964	8
Premises removed from the register in 1964	8

Inspection of Unsound Foodstuffs

During the year 152 certificates were issued in respect to 89 consignments of foodstuffs, weighing 5 tons 4 cwts. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. and consisting of:—

	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat	984
Ham and Bacon	1,047 $\frac{1}{2}$
Frozen Foods	339 $\frac{3}{4}$
Poultry and Game	121 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned Goods	8,057 $\frac{1}{2}$
Carton and Packaged Goods	116
Fruit and Vegetables	530
Miscellaneous	455 $\frac{1}{4}$
	<hr/>
	11,651 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
	<hr/>

Total weight of foodstuffs dealt with in 1963 3 tons 10 cwts. 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

Offences under the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations

The following offences were dealt with during the year.

<i>Contraventions</i>	<i>Result</i>
1. <i>Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>	
1. Failing to keep premises clean	Fined £75 and £6 6s. 0d. costs
2. Failing to keep equipment clean	
2. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling packet of mouldy tea	Letter of caution from Town Clerk
3. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling sour and mouldy pies	Letter of caution from Town Clerk
4. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling milk containing fragments of glass	Fined £20
5. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling mouldy pork sausages	Fined £10 plus £5 5s. 0d. costs
6. <i>Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>	
1. Absence of washing facilities for staff	Fined £7 plus £5 5s. 0d. costs
2. Absence of hot water supply	
7. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling cream cakes not containing butter fat	Letter of caution from Town Clerk
8. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling packet of tea containing laxative pills	Letter of caution from Town Clerk
9. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling mouldy bread	Letter of caution from Town Clerk
10. <i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
Selling mouldy pasty	Fined £15 plus £5 5s. 0d. costs

Food Premises

(1) The following summary shows the number of food premises in the town and the principal trade carried on in each case.

Butchers	..	..	..	..	86
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	32
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	47
Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	16
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	71
Grocers and Multiple Stores	..	..	..	..	102
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	295
Bread and Cakes	..	..	..	..	33
Sweets and Tobacconists	..	..	..	..	77
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	29
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	89
Aerated Water Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	3
Wholesale Grocers and Provision Merchants	..	..	..	..	8
Potato Crisp Manufacturer	..	..	..	..	1
Pickles and Jam Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	3

(2) Food premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice cream (sale and manufacture)	..	400
Butchers (Manufacture of Sausages, etc.)	..	53
Pork Butchers (Manufacture of Sausages, etc.)	..	8
Bakeries (Manufacture of Pies)	..	9
Preserved Meat Manufacturers	..	6
		<hr/> 476 <hr/>

(3) There are 4 dairies in the town registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations which are now used as milk stores.

(4) *Inspection of Food Premises*

During the year, 3,148 visits were made to food shops, cafes, restaurants, food factories and public houses and 129 inspections of vehicles used for the sale and transport of food were carried out.

111 notices were served upon the occupiers of premises for non-compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 66 notices were complied with during the year, and legal proceedings were instituted in two cases (see list of offences).

25 notices were also served upon the owners of mobile shops and vehicles used for the transport of food.

Summary of Work done during 1964

(a) *Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960*

1. Premises cleansed, redecorated. Walls, floors ceilings, etc. repaired	88
2. Articles of equipment cleansed	12
3. Steps taken to protect food from contamination	30

4.	Cleanliness of employees	..	..	..	..	..	6
5.	Wrapping of food	..	..	..	..	..	1
6.	Drainage of food premises	..	..	..	..	..	5
7.	Sanitary conveniences—cleanliness, condition, lighting and ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	41
8.	Provision of handwashing notices in sanitary conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	16
9.	Provision of washing facilities for food and equipment	..	..	..	..	..	9
10.	Provision of washing facilities for staff	..	..	..	..	..	43
11.	Provision of first-aid materials	..	..	..	..	..	43
12.	Provision of accommodation for the storage of clothes	..	..	..	..	..	13
13.	Provision of sufficient and suitable lighting in food rooms	..	..	..	..	..	3
14.	Provision of sufficient and suitable ventilation in food rooms	..	..	..	..	..	—
15.	Removal of refuse or filth from food premises	..	..	..	..	..	18
16.	Provision of means to retain foods at prescribed temperatures	..	..	..	..	..	1
17.	Vehicles cleansed, repaired, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	17

(b) *Shops Act, 1955*

1.	Suitable means of ventilation provided	..	..	..	..	—
2.	Suitable means of heating provided	..	..	..	..	—
3.	Suitable means of lighting provided..	..	..	..	..	1
4.	Additional sanitary conveniences provided or made available	..	..	..	..	—
5.	Washing facilities for employees provided	..	..	..	..	—

Annual Report of Samples Taken During 1964

Annual Report of Samples Taken During 1964

<i>Sample</i>						<i>No. of Samples Genuine Irregular</i>		
FORMAL								
Milk	..	..	..	..	4	—	4*
Cream Baskets	..	..	..	..	1	—	1†
INFORMAL								
Ascorbic Acid Tablets	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Baby Food	..	..	..	..	1	—	1‡
Beef Dripping	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Beetroot	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Bitter Lemon Drink	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Blackcurrant Pastilles	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Bread	..	..	..	..	13	13	—
Brewer's Yeast	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Butter	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Casilan Whole Protein	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Chipples	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Cream	..	..	..	..	2	2	—
Cream Cakes	..	..	..	..	1	—	1§
Crushed Raspberry	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Curry Powder	..	..	..	..	2	2	—
Double Devon Cream	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Egg Custard	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Fish Cakes..	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Flour	..	..	..	..	7	7	—
Granny Loaf	..	..	..	..	1	—	1**
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	8	8	—
Ice Pops	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Instant Mashed Potatoes	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Jelly Babies	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
“Mackintosh Red” Apples	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Moutarde Floride..	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Milk	..	..	..	..	38	36	2††
Pepper Sauce	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Potted Meat	..	..	..	..	1	1	—

<i>Sample</i>					<i>No. of Samples Genuine Irregular</i>		
Pease Pudding with Ham	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Rice	..	..	..	..	1	—	1††
Scott's Emulsion	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Shredded Suet	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Skimmed Milk Powder	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Smoked Cod Fillets	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Soft Drinks	..	..	..	..	6	6	—
Sterilised Cream	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Stawberry Cream Cake	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Stringless Beans	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
White Bread	..	..	..	..	2	—	2§§

* Deficiency in non-fatty solids due to natural causes.

† Cream part of sample not butter fat. Warning letter sent.

‡ Contamination by mould filaments around neck of jar, in the opinion of Public Analyst the contents were not unfit for human consumption.

§ Creamy part of sample not butter fat. Statement as to cream subsequently displayed.

** Not established that foreign material was in loaf when purchased.

†† Formal samples taken.

‡‡ Foreign body, pellets of dried earth, probably from country of origin.

§§ Foreign body — proved to be burnt bread.

Slaughterhouses

During the year 1964, 25,164 animals were slaughtered by Messrs. Tyneside Abattoirs Limited in their slaughterhouse at Hawks Road, a decrease of 6,790 on the previous year's figures, mainly attributable to the reduced kill of pigs.

Table I shows the comparison with the figures for 1963.

Table I

				1963	1964
Cattle	..	..	..	3,483	2,980
Calves	..	..	..	44	64
Sheep	..	..	..	13,634	15,320
Pigs	..	..	..	14,793	6,802
Total	..	..	..	31,954	25,164

An interesting feature during the year was the development of an export trade in carcase meat and of live meat animals to various continental countries. Gateshead had a small share in this trade in the export of meat to Belgium. This work entails attention by the inspecting officer to the inspection criteria laid down by the importing country and to the documentation required in the form of labelling and export certificates.

The abattoir has now developed a pattern of working which is closely connected with the two local markets at Newcastle and Gateshead, and involves week-end slaughter. One hundred per cent inspection has been maintained throughout the year.

Table II

			<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number Killed ..	..	..	2,048	932	64	15,320	6,802	—
Number Inspected ..	..	..	2,048	932	64	15,320	6,802	—
<i>All Diseases Except T.B. and Cysticerci</i>								
Whole Carcases Condemed ..			8	4	6	78	47	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..			548	412	1	3,260	1,927	—
Per cent of number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. or Cysticerci ..			27.14%	44.63%	10.94%	21.78%	29.02%	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>								
Whole Carcases Condemed ..			—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..			—	—	—	—	93	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	1.38%	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>								
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..			27	9	—	16	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	..	..	7	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and Totally Condemed ..	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—

Table III shows the meat and offal condemned for the various diseased conditions found upon post-mortem examination at the slaughterhouse.

Table III

				<i>Lbs.</i>
Traumatism	1,528			
Tuberculosis	853			
Pneumonia	2,979			
Pleurisy and Peritonitis ..	2,667			
Parasitic conditions	6,757			
Hydatids	15			
Abscesses	2,699			
Contamination	72			
Cysticercus bovis	716			
Cirrhosis	219			
Actino bacillosis	340			
Actino mycosis	14			
Haemangioma	304			
Arthritis	2,362			
Imperfect bleeding	330			
Pyæmia	414			
Oedema and Emanciation ..	2,809			
Septicæmia	1,657			
Septic metritis	336			
Neoplasms	1			
Toxaemia	2,278			
Mastitis	640			
Other conditions	728			
				30,718 lbs.

Bacteriological Examinations

In addition to the routine bacterial examination of milk and ice cream samples, 13 samples of miscellaneous foodstuffs were obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

All the foodstuffs were found to be free from pathogenic organisms and were:—

- 1 Carcase Sow Pork
- 1 Carcase Ewe Mutton
- 2 Carcases Cow Beef
- 1 Mussels in Shell
- 1 Corned Beef
- 1 Minced Pork
- 5 Synthetic Cream
- 1 Cream Cake

H. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

1. Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

The administration of the Diseases of Animals Act was mainly in connection with the livestock market and the few remaining piggeries in the town.

102 sales were held at the Mart in 1964 and an inspector was present at each sale to issue the necessary movement licences and control the cleansing and disinfection of the vehicles transporting animals to and from the market.

Messrs. T. and I. Maughan and Company, Limited have continued to operate the premises in a satisfactory manner and have carried out further improvements to the mart.

The following statement shows the number of animals which passed through the Auction Mart, which is also an official certification centre, and shows an increase of 5,841 animals on the previous year.

				<i>Fat Stock for Slaughter</i>	<i>Store Stock</i>
Cattle	..	..	..	20,644	—
Sheep	..	..	..	26,475	—
Calves	..	..	..	199	—
Pigs	..	..	..	4,993	6,323
Horses	..	..	..	—	22
				<hr/> 52,331	<hr/> 6,345 <hr/>

1,163 licences were issued in respect of 11,316 swine.

Animals (landing from Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland)

No sales of freshly landed cattle were held in 1964.

Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1960

The movements of swine under this Order were as follows:—

	<i>No. of Licences Issued</i>	<i>No. of Swine</i>
Movement of Swine from Maughan's to premises outside the Borough ..	986	10,345
Movement of Swine from Maughan's to premises within the Borough	177	971
Movement of Swine to premises within the Borough from other authorities ..	402	4,924

Regular inspections were carried out, covering all aspects of the movement of swine including inspection of piggeries within the Borough.

Swine Fever (Infected Areas Restrictions) Order, 1956-58

Owing to an outbreak of swine fever in Durham and Northumberland, the store mart was closed for the sale of pigs for three weeks from the 1st to the 21st May, 1964. During this period, 74 licences were received and checked in respect of 120 pigs coming into the Borough and 255 licences were issued covering the movement of 227 swine for immediate slaughter.

Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1957

No sales of poultry were held during the year.

2. Disinfestation of Verminous Premises

Details of the types of premises where disinfestation work has been carried out for various kinds of infestations are shown below.

Premises Treated for Cockroaches

Council houses	44
Private houses	18
Hospitals	23
Other premises	14
	<hr/> 99

Premises Treated for Bugs and Other Insects

Council houses	23
Private houses	34
Other premises	8
Welfare Services cases	15
	<hr/> 80

<i>Furniture Disinfected on Removal</i>	3
	<hr/> 182

3. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The treatment of sewers for rat infestations was continued throughout the year, but this work is becoming increasingly difficult owing to the amount of traffic on the roads and the arduous task of lifting the heavier type manhole covers which are being fitted to withstand the traffic.

The first treatment of the sewers commenced in January and was confined to manholes where previous takes had been recorded. A more extensive treatment was carried out between April and July and this was followed by a further check treatment during September and October.

The following table gives details of the treatments and the results obtained, and it is satisfying to note that only 13% of the manholes baited were infested, a 2% decrease on the previous year.

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Bait Used</i>	<i>No. of Manholes Baited</i>	<i>No. of Poison takes Recorded</i>
1st Special Treatment (January-February)	Warfarin, Oat- meal Oil, Sugar and Preservative	142	32
2nd Treatment (April-July)	do.	375	36
3rd Treatment (September-October)	do.	215	29

Rodent Control in Premises

442 complaints of infestations of rodents in buildings were received and dealt with during the year.

128 premises were found to be infested with mice and 240 with rats, and in 74 cases no treatment was necessary.

The following table shows the number of infestations found and treatments carried out.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>Local Authority Premises</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Business and other premises</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Total number of premises inspected as the result of:				
(a) Notification	27	299	116	442
(b) Survey	2	12	42	56
Number of Infestations Found:				
(a) Rats.. .. .	11	155	74	240
(b) Mice	16	86	26	128
Number of treatments carried out by Rodent Operators	28	253	99	380

Rodent Control on Lands and Open Spaces

A special survey of the river banks was carried out in conjunction with other authorities to investigate the degree of rodent infestation. At the same time, full scale baiting was carried out, as it was felt that a combined effort might prevent the migration of rats from one area to another.

During the year 1,104 visits were made to open spaces, river banks, farms and refuse tips, 239 baits were laid and 116 takes recorded.

Special Survey of Industrial Premises

39 business premises along the riverside were visited and 7 required treatment.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are 11 premises registered in the Borough to use and store filling materials to which the Act applies.

During the year, 21 visits were made to these premises and 4 informal samples of material taken, all of which complied with the Regulations.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

The three licensed Pet Shops in the town were visited periodically and found to be maintained in compliance with the Act.

Merchandise Marks Act

No special visits were made under this Act but attention was given to the marking of goods during inspections under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Burial Act, 1857

No action was necessary during the year.

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO CAUSES, AGES, SEX AND WARDS DURING 1964

	Total	Males	Females	0-1 Yrs.	1-2 Yrs.	2-5 Yrs.	5-15 Yrs.	15-25 Yrs.	25-45 Yrs.	45-65 Yrs.	65-75 Yrs.	75 Yrs. & Over	Riverside	Claxton	Enfield	Low Fell	Wrekenon	Saltwell	Teams	Askew	Bensham	Claremont	Chandless	Shipcote	Deaths in Public Inst.	Transferable Deaths	
																										In	Out
Certified	1120	595	525	42	3	5	3	6	51	296	296	418	68	101	125	106	91	78	135	54	108	91	75	88	—	—	—
Uncertified	7	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	1
2. Tuberculosis Other	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	33	17	16	—	—	—	—	2	8	12	11	2	4	1	3	2	1	8	2	2	2	3	3	4	15	6	7
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	69	64	5	—	—	—	—	1	41	22	5	4	11	5	5	4	3	3	2	6	6	9	8	6	17	22	8
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	20	—	20	—	—	—	—	1	7	6	6	2	1	1	4	3	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	8	5	8
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	1	—	6	2	5	
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	108	65	43	—	1	—	1	9	37	32	28	5	7	12	10	8	11	8	6	13	7	10	11	49	36	21	
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	9	4	5	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	2
16. Diabetes	10	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	133	57	76	—	—	1	—	—	14	48	69	9	12	14	12	10	8	23	4	11	13	9	8	90	26	33	
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	239	138	101	—	—	—	—	9	75	75	80	11	28	32	21	19	14	29	6	32	23	12	12	121	46	46	
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	16	2	14	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	9	—	2	2	1	1	3	2	—	1	—	1	1	1	12	2	4
20. Other Heart Disease	116	46	70	—	—	—	—	4	17	18	77	8	10	11	11	11	7	18	5	12	3	7	13	55	19	21	
21. Other Circulatory Disease	52	20	32	—	—	—	—	—	9	13	30	3	3	9	8	5	4	5	3	5	3	—	4	32	8	13	
22. Influenza	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	
23. Pneumonia	11	5	6	3	1	—	—	—	1	2	4	2	1	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	9	3	5	
24. Broncho Pneumonia	37	20	17	4	—	—	—	1	7	8	17	2	2	5	3	—	3	8	3	5	3	3	32	11	12	—	
25. Bronchitis	69	49	20	1	—	—	—	—	24	24	20	3	8	7	7	9	5	7	5	5	6	3	4	34	16	13	
26. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	10	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	—	3	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	2	1	1	6	3	1	
27. Ulcer of Stomach, Duodenum	14	8	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	5	2	2	—	1	2	1	2	—	2	1	2	1	13	4	3	
28. Gastritis, Enteritis	6	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4	—	1	
29. Diarrhoea	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	
30. Nephritis, Nephrosis	8	5	3	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	2	4	—	
31. Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	
32. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	
33. Congenital Malformations	13	6	7	10	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
34. Premature Birth	12	8	4	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	2	15	4	7	
35. Other Defined & Illdefined Diseases	70	30	40	7	—	—	1	3	16	11	32	4	6	9	7	2	3	10	7	7	6	3	6	54	18	10	
36. Motor Vehicle Accidents	18	12	6	—	1	2	2	—	3	3	2	3	2	1	4	1	2	3	1	2	—	2	3	12	10	4	
37. All Other Accidents	19	12	7	1	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	8	1	1	2	3	5	1	2	—	—	2	3	12	10	4	
38. Suicide	13	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	3	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	4	6	7	
39. Homicide & Operations of War	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	
	1127	598	529	42	3	5	3	6	51	296	301	420	68	102	125	106	91	79	137	54	111	91	75	88	650	259	259

